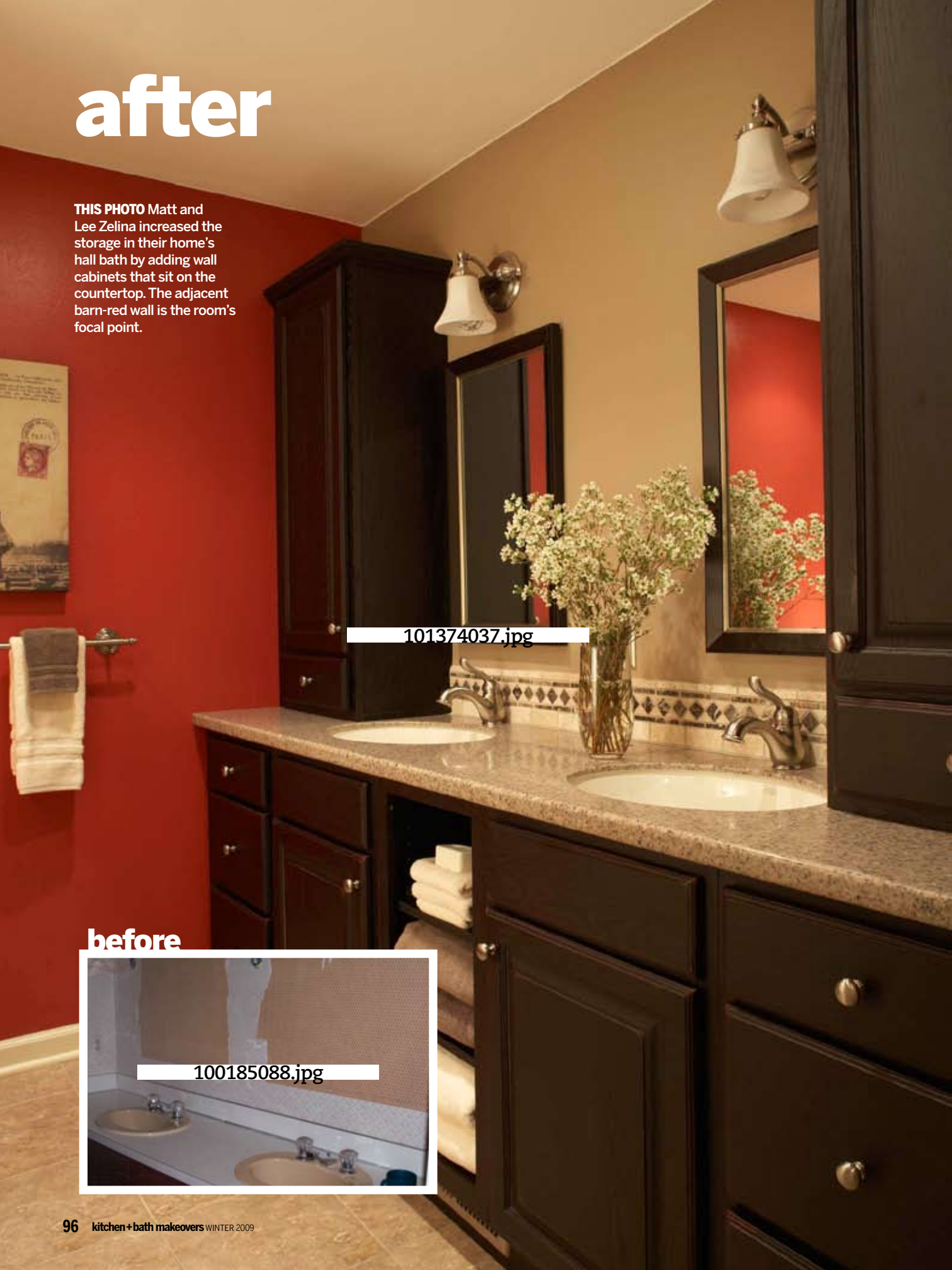


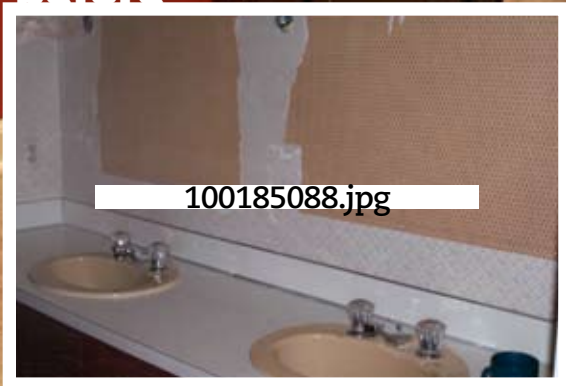
after

THIS PHOTO Matt and Lee Zelina increased the storage in their home's hall bath by adding wall cabinets that sit on the countertop. The adjacent barn-red wall is the room's focal point.



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before



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Next generation

{WRITER AND STYLIST JUDI KETTELER PHOTOGRAPHER BRYAN MCCAY}

As a teenager, Lee Zelina stood in front of her bathroom mirror, flipping and smoothing her locks, Farrah Fawcett style. Decades later, she found herself back in that same bathroom. Though her life was completely different now, little about the space had changed since the early 1980s.

in this makeover WALL CABINETS ON TOP OF THE COUNTER ...
RED ACCENT WALL ... DECORATIVE TILE TRIM ... UNDERMOUNT SINKS



LEFT A petite, single-lever faucet tucks along the back of the countertop. The warm tones in the brushed nickel finish blend with the tile and solid-surfacing countertop.

oak,” Rose-Sprunk says. The distressed charcoal stain with red undertones gives a polished, custom look. Once they decided on the dark stain, the rest of the pieces—red accent wall, polished nickel hardware, black and taupe speckled solid-surfacing vanity top—just fell into place. “We didn’t want it to be too feminine since it was for the boys,” Lee says. “But it also had to be appropriate for guests, so it needed some elegance.”

The Zelinis considered buying shower fixtures and tiling, but they wanted a solution that was more economical—and easier to clean. Rose-Sprunk steered them toward a shower/tub combo with a surround wall. “Acrylic material resists chipping and offers an easy-to-care-for surface for the growing boys,” Rose-Sprunk says. Lee and Matt dressed up the surround by putting decorative tile (coordinated with the sink backsplash) around the top of the unit.

Flooring was another area where the Zelinis saved. They looked at ceramic tile, but it was too shiny, Rose-Sprunk says, and didn’t quite suit the atmosphere of the space. Less-expensive porcelain tile was a better fit because it offered the natural look of stone.

Now Lee has the best of both worlds: fantastic kid memories of growing up in this house, alongside all the great amenities that make it wonderful to live here as an adult. Not only that, Eric and Evan have the perfect place to spritz and gel their own high-maintenance hairstyles. When Lee points this out to the boys, she gets an eye roll. *As if.* ^(kb)

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Find bathroom floor plan options at KitchenBathIdeas.com/bath_floor_plans

Lee and her husband, Matt, bought Lee’s childhood home in Whitehouse, Ohio, and remodeled one room at a time. Finally they arrived at Lee’s old bathroom—now shared by their two boys: Eric, 13, and Evan, 11.

“This bathroom needed a serious facelift,” Lee says. It was overrun with gold-finish everything—tub, tile, and hardware. The blue and mauve wallpaper was a painful testament to the ’80s, and the laminate vanity top and mirror with round dressing room-style lightbulbs belonged to the era of feathered hair.

For help, Lee turned to designer Michele Rose-Sprunk, who had overseen their kitchen renovation the year before. The Zelinis wanted to redo this space economically so they’d have enough money left to make over the master bath. They decided to keep the footprint of this bathroom intact but rip out the tub, toilet, cabinetry, and sinks and replace them with materials that offered a high-end look for a low price.

Rose-Sprunk and the Zelinis tackled the cabinetry first. “One thing we did to save money was to use red

{ about this makeover }

THE BUDGET

CABINETRY	2,646
PLUMBING	
▪ Bathtub, shower surround	1,452
▪ Lav faucets (two)	254
▪ Lav sinks (two)	225
▪ Toilet	528
▪ Toilet seat	69
SURFACES	
▪ Countertop	1,764
▪ Flooring	351
▪ Tile trim for tub/shower surround	105
MISCELLANEOUS	
▪ Light fixture	100
▪ Mirror	591
▪ Shower door	594
▪ Towel bars, hardware, hooks	100
TOTAL	\$8,779

THE DETAILS

TOP RIGHT The Zelinis wanted an up-to-date touch for this bathroom, so they opted for brushed nickel fixtures. The finish goes nicely with the dark stain on the cabinets. **BELOW** Hooks don’t need to be run-of-the-mill. These distinctive hooks have a traditional profile while providing handy storage. **RIGHT** The new, clean-looking tub/shower combo offers the Zelinis flexibility. The boys can take quick showers, but guests can soak in the tub if they prefer. And the unit is easy to clean.

