Advice

# A well-chosen sink gives your bathroom personality and flair

**Prague, 5 September 2017 – A sink is one of the dominant features of a bathroom, a room where we spend quite a lot of time each day. There are countless types on the market, which means that when furnishing the bathroom we should pick one that will give the space a distinctive and fresh look. How, then, to go about chosing the ideal bathroom sink?**

**The sink must harmonize with the space**

**The choice of sink has to take into account not only the space but also the overall concept of the room and should harmonize stylistically. If the bathroom is furnished it in a contemporary spirit, then choose a more angular or geometrically interesting sink. Typical rounded sinks are more appropriate for classic bathrooms*. “The size of the sink and its placement are determined by the layout of the bathroom. For comfortable movement in front of the washbasin, there should be a space of approximately 80 cm. Also, figure at least 10 centimeters on each side, and if you want to place a towel holder there, add a few more centimeters”,* says Petr Štěpánek, a service technician for the JIKA brand.

**Everything depends on the size of the bathroom**

If you have a large enough bathroom and the space isn’t limiting in any way, choose a large sink, with a width of 80–100 cm, or a modern double sink. This is particularly suitable for families with children, eliminating the morning struggle for a place in front of the sink. Moreover, this type of washbasin offers a surprisingly generous amount of counter space, so you’ll no longer have to worry about finding a free area for things such as toothbrushes. If your bathroom is not large enough, then opt for a small sink of around 50 cm in width. A corner sink can help make the most of your bathroom when there are space constraints.

**Furniture for your washbasin**

We appreciate the functionality and practicality of a sink every time we use it. Likewise, we should carefully give careful consideration to the cabinet under the sink. Especially in a small bathroom, every bit of space for neatly storing hygiene and cleaning products is valuable. In addition, a cabinet effectively hides an unattractive siphon and offers a pre-cut space to accommodate it. A cabinet ties the bathroom together, and allows the washing powder and towels to be hidden behind closed doors.

**Choice and maintenance of a washbasin siphon**

We should always buy the siphon together with the washbasin. This avoids the complication of having to modify the siphon, which isn’t possible with some types. *“The siphon should come from a certified manufacturer. The craftsman should avoid installing a so-called flexi connection, which can present not only an aesthetic problem but also ones of time and practicality. People sometimes pour various cleaning solutions down the drain that can degrade plastic, which can bend and even crack over time. From an aesthetic standpoint, a plastic siphon is often transparent, and impurities that settle in it can turn black and look unappealing, even if the siphon is hidden by bathroom furniture”,* says Štěpánek.

**When cleaning, beware of chemicals**

Impurities will accumulate in the siphon over time – hair, for example. When the drain becomes clogged, most of us reach for sodium hydroxide to clear the siphon, pouring hot water down the drain. However, experts say that this cleaning method should be avoided. *“Although this way of clearing the drain seems effective, it can cause unpleasant complications. Hydroxide weakens the walls of the siphon and the high temperature can disturb it. Paradoxically, you can completely clog the siphon this way. The best way to clean the siphon is simply to disassemble it and clean it with a small brush”,* explains the JIKA service technician.

**Picking a tap for the sink**

Washbasin faucets serve not just an aesthetic function, they can also save water. For example, the JIKA Mio-N faucet has a flow rate of 6 litres per minute and also has an aerator with an adjustable flow. You’ll appreciate this feature especially when the stream of water falls at the edge of the sink.

The finger-adjustable aerator allows you to change the direction of the water flow so that the it falls directly into the sink. What’s more, the aerator in the faucet is made of a special material that’s resistant to lime scale forming – eliminating the need for strenuous cleaning. A high-quality ceramic cartridge is a given*. “With a lever faucet, a flexi connection should be installed, and this should be done by a professional. These pipes work like a straw, and if they are bent incorrectly, water does not flow through them. This happens especially with hot water, when the flexible tubing made of rubber reinforced with a metal mesh warms up and bends slightly. Usually it is located under the faucet and connects the body of the faucet with the corner valve, just at the point where the water is supplied”,* adds Štěpánek. Some washbasin faucets include a Click-Clack system, which is a special plug that allows easy manual closing and opening of the washbasin drain.

**About the JIKA brand:** The leading Czech brand JIKA is one of the most respected producers of bathroom ceramics and equipment as well as tiles. The company was founded in 1878, when the first factory in Europe for producing santiary ceramics and tableware was opened. JIKA stands as a symbol of quality and tradition. JIKA offers complete solutions for your bathroom, whether you have a large space or a small one where every centimetre counts. More information at [http://www.jika.eu/](http://www.jika.cz/)