



“Fabric that you can see through is more important to me than any piece of furniture. I love the diffused light you get through it.”

Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz



Home office designed by Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz

“So many people work at home these days, so I think the home office should be part of another room to make those working in it feel included.”

BUNNY WILLIAMS

EVERY HOME OFFICE MUST HAVE:

A really beautiful and monumental armoire that can hide everything (*Carter*) * Wireless connection (*Jeffers*) for god’s sake! (*Noriega-Ortiz*) * One workstation per person—no sharing (*Pheasant*) * Ample storage (*Whealon*), attractive files (*Kemble*) * Hold Everything boxes in colors—orange! (*Ridder*) * A bulletin board (*McDonald*) * What home office? Today you can put it in your lap. But you do need a good ergonomic chair (*Wolf*)

EVERY GARAGE MUST HAVE:

A car? (*Kemble*) * A design to accommodate multiple uses (*Hadley*) * More length so storage can be accommodated on the end instead of the sides—too big is ugly (*Braithwaite*) * A stainless steel sink and a floor drain (*Carter*) * Garage accessories and parking aids from the Brookstone catalog such as bumpers to install on garage walls to protect car doors and floor guides for mistake-proof parking (*Easton*) * An extra refrigerator to put beer and wine for parties (*Jeffers*) * Good storage (*Wolf*), organizational hooks and shelving (*McDonald*) that is uniform (*Sommers*) * One bay more than the total number of cars for bikes and projects (*Pheasant*) * Mouse traps (*Ridder*) * Garages seem so superfluous—cars have their own roof, why put another one on top! If I had to have a garage, I would want to match the color in the garage to the car. (*Noriega-Ortiz*)

**EVERY
BATHROOM
MUST HAVE:**

Furniture in lieu of cabinetry (*Carter*), a vanity (*McDonald*)
* Plenty of counter space (*Braithwaite*) and storage for towels
(*Wolf*), shampoo, shaving creams (*Williams*) * Heated floors
(*Jeffers*) * Something other than the tub and shower: a chaise, a
fireplace (*Hadley*), a chair or settee (*McDonald*) * Lighting that
is flattering (*Kemble*), natural—from the north or east
(*Braithwaite*), bright enough to do lipstick (*McDonald*) * A mirror
that is big and inset in the wall (*Sommers*), has magnification
(*Pheasant*), has no magnification (*McDonald*) * An antique silver
cup that anyone can get, as from a swap meet or flea market
(*McDonald*) * Restoration Hardware white towels (*Ridder*)



*“Have a huge bathtub.
Two or three people should be able to fit in it,
and the same goes with the shower!”*

BENJAMIN NORIEGA-ORTIZ

Bathroom designed by Matthew
Patrick Smyth



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Bisazza

“All of the houses that I lived in as a child in San Juan were very open and had terrazzo floors that transitioned from inside to out. My design reflects that,” says **Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz**. He likes to use a line of terrazzo-like products from Bisazza, the Italian company known mostly for its innovative glass mosaics and individual glass tiles. The glass-composition slab products Noriega-Ortiz favors have high-tech-sounding names: Logos, Metron and Codex. Though they are considerably thinner than regular terrazzo (a quarter of an inch thick as opposed to two inches), they look virtually indistinguishable from the real terrazzo.—KWG