Written by Arizona Foothills Magazine

One could define luxury as the ultimate experience of a mundane necessity. It could also be said that a certain amount of luxury is a requirement for human happiness. We are not just creatures of necessity; we are creatures of experience. Food fulfills the necessity. Luxury dining fulfills the experience. Clothes fulfill the necessity. Luxury apparel fulfills the experience. Shelter fulfills the necessity. A luxurious home fulfills the experience.



To complete the experience, some luxuries are necessitated by others. It makes little sense to splurge on a luxury home, and allow its nooks and crannies to be filled with mundane experiences. Your investment in luxury deserves better.

Here are a few luxuries for your home you may not have considered:

## **Luxury Toilets**

If there is any place in your home in need of a luxury upgrade, it is probably your bathroom. Averaging about an hour a day, we spend a little more than two weeks a year in the porcelain palace. Other sources suggest we use an average of 57 sheets of toilet paper per day, per person. That is a lot of time and natural resources quite literally flushed down the toilet.

Why not transform that necessity time into luxury time, while cutting down on the waste. Instal a bidet. For those new to the idea, there are actually websites where you can catch up on all the news and reviews pertaining to your next luxury purchase. For what it's worth, the bio bidet bb 2000 seems to be the new hotness in bidet tech.

That is just one of many from which to choose. There seems to be as many choices of bidets as there are posteriors themselves. They come as stand-alone furnishings, and built-in components in a fairly traditional looking toilet seat. As a luxury item, the prices range from surprisingly down-to-earth, to "how much do you have". In your Arizona dream home, no bathroom should be left, er, behind.

## **Heated Driveways**

A lot of people winter in Arizona, while spending the warmer months in a traditionally colder climate. But sometimes, circumstances require you to winter in the colder climate. That can mean routinely shoveling 6 to 8 feet of snow from your driveway. That makes your cold-weather driveway a prime candidate for a luxury upgrade.

Consider a heated driveway. It is a lot like the heated floor you already have in your house, only made for outside use. (You do already have a heated floor, right?) While most installations require putting in a whole new driveway, in rare cases, a snow melting system can be installed underneath an existing driveway. While your neighbors are digging their way out of their driveway, you can enjoy an extra cup of coffee, or an extra 20 minutes of sleep. What could be more luxurious than that?

## **Automate Your Climate Control**

Remember the days when you would have to get up in the morning just to adjust the temperature in the rest of the house? Once you made the adjustment, you would have to dart back into the bedroom, and wait until the house was appropriately heated or cooled before you could get the day started. I know that is a traumatic memory. We were like animals. Don't dwell on it.

Today, our climate control systems can be fitted with <u>smart electronics</u> that do more than just set the AC on a timer. Our heating and cooling systems can detect when we enter a room. What's more, they can learn when we normally enter a room, and prepare the climate in advance of our anticipated arrival. They can also detect when we leave the room, or even the house. Controlling our climate is the most energy wasteful thing we do. Smarter homes can practically do it for us, reducing our energy footprint, and increasing our experience.

Luxury is not always art and jewelry. Sometimes, it can be found in the most practical necessities.