

Business

# Outlook

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

## Letters to Outlook

### Ways to resurface the old bathtub

This letter is in response to the "Covering up problem fixture is not the best solution" article in the Sept. 10 Homestyle section of the Albuquerque Journal. While the article contained some good information about resurfacing bathroom fixtures it was incomplete ... about the benefits of resurfacing.

As the article states, sometimes replacement of these household fixtures is the best alternative. However, as a rule, it is an expensive one. No matter what you are replacing, you must tear out the old items or fixtures to replace them. Because a bathtub is installed in the home when it is being framed, it is the most expensive item to change. The wall board and coverings are placed on top of the tub and

the floors nestled right against the tub so it is a major ordeal to remodel a bathroom. The national average for replacing a bathtub, wall surround and vanity is \$8,563, which does not include the mess, inconvenience and time it takes to get the job done.

While the article was correct in stating that coatings have improved over the last 15 years, it does not address non-urethane and non-epoxy methods for resurfacing porcelain and tile.

There are reputable resurfacing companies out there with reputable products.

GET A GRIP Inc., for example, holds four patents on our proprietary, polymer-based products, which we make in our local warehouse, including two spray-on products. One product adheres to anything that is plastic, such as laminate countertops, fiberglass tubs, shower enclosures, shower pans, cultured marble or faux marble surfaces. The other product adheres to silica or glass, such as porcelain bathtubs, tile enclosures, backsplashes and pans.

The article reminds me of copycat and wannabe companies that give homeowners and commercial property managers the wrong impression of the industry. These disreputable firms take paint off the shelf and try to mimic the products we use, the proper product on the proper surface. All resurfacing companies are not the same, nor do we use the same products.

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