



## Everything You Need For a Bathroom Remodel is Made Right Here in the West

Americans are importing a record-smashing amount of stuff. Like, so much stuff that there are cargo ships backed up in the Pacific Ocean waiting to unload it in ports along the West Coast in Oakland, Long Beach, and Tacoma.

What does any of this have to do with your bathroom renovation plans, you may ask?

Let's connect the dots. Analysts blame the above surge on changing consumer habits during the pandemic. Money that was spent on services before is being used to purchased goods now. And many of those goods come from China—on vessels overloaded with containers, which are [falling into the ocean](#) at an alarming rate. The [shipping crisis](#) has a negative economic impact, no question. But the massive, idling ships are also ruining gorgeous water views, and polluting the air and the water while they wait—sometimes for two full weeks.

The current home renovation boom is contributing to the problem. According to a Houzz.com renovation report, spending in this category was up 15% in 2020, and more than half of homeowners surveyed had some plans to renovate in 2021. Many toppling containers are filled with cheaply made tile, sinks, towel bars ... you get the idea.

The good news is that there are plenty of options for everything you need to remodel a [bathroom](#)—and many of them are manufactured within 1,000 miles of any location in the West. Buying locally, or even regionally, will reduce the carbon footprint of your project, support domestic jobs, and encourage great American design in the process.

You may already know about [Heath Ceramics](#) in the Bay Area, which has been making some of California's favorite tile and tableware since 1948. But did you know that Rocky Mountain Hardware casts metal faucets and cabinet pulls in Idaho? Or that the top-selling freestanding bathtubs are made in Southern California?

Here are some of our favorite brands designing and manufacturing building materials in our own backyard.

## ROCKY MOUNTAIN HARDWARE: Sun Valley, Idaho



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Using old-world bronze casting techniques and unique designs, Idaho-based Rocky Mountain Hardware products pass through 30 hands in the production process at a factory near Sun Valley. (People who are into the idea of pouring 2,200-degree molten metal into sand casts may enjoy some time on [their website](#).) Door hardware, cabinet pulls, towel bars, sinks, faucets, hooks—they do it all.