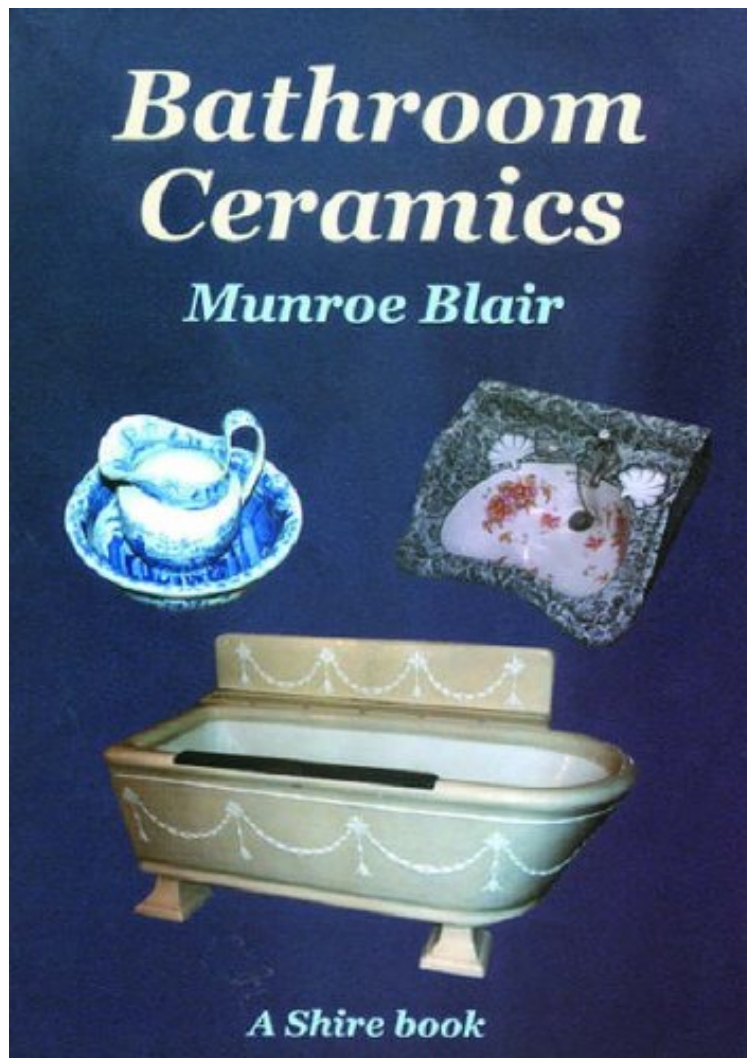


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*Munroe Blair*

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(Read now) Bathroom Ceramics (Shire Library)

## **Bathroom Ceramics (Shire Library)**

**Munroe Blair : Bathroom Ceramics (Shire Library)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bathroom Ceramics (Shire Library):

In the twenty-first century, most civilised communities enjoy washing water 'on tap' as the expected norm. This book traces the history of bathrooms over four thousand years and describes the development of ceramic fixtures for washing and bathing. Ceramic washbasins of the kind we are now accustomed to date only from the late nineteenth century, but for many centuries simple wash bowls have been made by potters for their local communities.

Staffordshire potters started making washing and WC bowls, together with other domestic pottery, in the late eighteenth century. By the 1850s, not only had the market for ceramic bathroom fixtures increased but larger and more

complex patterns were demanded. Simple bowls were extended to include integral shelf space with soap trays, tap holes, overflows and upstands around the bowls. Changing styles of design and decoration are followed through classical, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, self-coloured ware, the Victorian revival and into the twenty-first century. This progression is illustrated with colourful catalogue pages, diagrammatic drawings, photographs of historic baths, bidets and washbasins and archive pictures showing production environments of the early twentieth century.

About the Author Munroe Blair acquired his knowledge of bathroom ceramics from inside the industry, working with Twyford, Armitage Shanks and English China Clays. A History of Art and Design BA and a Masters Degree in the History of Ceramics provide an academic base of investigative research.