

COME HOME
TO COPPER

Show Off Your Copper Pipes!

Although people have long sought to keep pipes hidden, copper pipes are now coming into the open thanks to the influence of industrial design. Attracted by the intrinsic qualities of copper – style, longevity, ease of installation – and the advantages of easy-to-access plumbing, more and more property owners and interior designers are opting for exposed pipes. Raw copper pipe networks are becoming a "loft style" design element in their own right.



Amsterdam barber shop
© Wouter van den Brink



Stockholm restaurant
© Mattias Lindbäck

The most commonly-used material in Europe for carrying water, copper is everywhere in homes and buildings. However, pipes are often built in or hidden by panels. Certain architects, designers and property owners are choosing to show off this 'hidden treasure,' by leaving copper pipes exposed, even multiplying them, to take advantage of their decorative potential.

This is particularly true when striving to maintain the spirit of industrial buildings and workshops that have been converted into living spaces or shops.

The "loft" inspired style espouses the use of original materials (metal, wood, brick, concrete) and emphasises the functional aspects of the buildings: pipes, ducts and metal pipes are exposed for all to see, creating a factory-style ambiance. This trend, combined with the strong enthusiasm for copper as a decorative element, is leading to a rediscovery of the aesthetic qualities of the red metal, which is much sought-after today. The number of lofts, barber shops, restaurants and other fashionable places which feature copper plumbing as part of the decor are multiplying!

Apart from their essential role in transporting and maintaining the quality of the water, and for heating, copper pipes are now also becoming a centrepiece of 'industrial' interiors. Malleable and easy to shape, copper tubes enable the creation of complex pipe networks and can be adapted to all renovation projects. Extremely durable and 100% recyclable, there is no shortage of benefits for eco-design conscious property owners. Some further original creations using copper pipe around Europe are presented on the following pages.

More information on the uses of copper in the home can be found at:
www.come-home-to-copper.co.uk

