



Michael Kenyon went from sweeping the floors in his uncles factory to owning the business.

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# MGK Kitchens won't be left in the dust

**Michael Kenyon is the driving force behind MGK Kitchens. His story started sweeping floors in his uncle's cabinetmaking business during school holidays. Fast forward, and not only does he own the business now, but sweeping the floors has got a lot less arduous.**

The installation of a WDMAX CNC made the difference. "The dust extraction on the WDMAX is amazing," says Michael. "The area around the machine and the machine itself is so much cleaner than our previous CNC".

But let's rewind a bit. Michael's cabinetmaking journey began at the tender age of 16 with a 3-year cabinetmaking apprenticeship. By 19 he was fully qualified, and with 18 months experience under his belt he set out on the classic Kiwi rite of passage on an OE to London. Michael eventually made his way back to NZ and found himself once again working in his uncle's business, then known as 'Plain & Fancy'. Fast forward to 2017, Michael took the plunge and bought the business.

Although the business was an early adopter of CNC technology, Michael values traditional cabinet making techniques. "There's something to be said for knowing how things should be made. It's a huge advantage when discussing concepts with customers, architects and designers, being able to translate their design ideas into practical functioning cabinetry," adds Michael. "I pride myself on everything being sized correctly, anticipating challenges and finding solutions to ensure the least amount of disruption during installation for the end client."

And he certainly walks the talk with three of his four cabinetmakers trade qualified, and the fourth currently going through the apprenticeship program at WINTEC.

MGK Kitchens is renowned for the quality of their work - their cabinetry was show cased in the Masterbuilders "House of the Year 2023". They also work with those looking for more economical cabinetry. "We can still deliver a price-sensitive, quality-made product by choosing different materials and hardware" says Michael.



MGK Kitchens - showcased in the Masterbuilders House of the Year 2023.

That flexibility is certainly helped by the recent installation of their WDMAX CNC. In addition to the excellent dust extraction performance, "changing tools with the auto tool measuring system saves a huge amount of time," says Michael. "On the old machine it could take us 45 minutes to change, measure the tool enter the new length and test. Now it takes a few minutes at most. When we skim the sacrificial spoil board, the WDMAX automatically adjusts the Z axis depth to the new thickness of the spoil board - another feature our old CNC didn't have. Then there's the auto lubrication," Michael continues. "All of these features

add up and save a considerable amount of time. My guys also really appreciate how easy the computer interface is. After just two hours of training they were flying and all four of them can use the WDMAX."

Looking ahead, MGK Kitchens want to continue pushing into the high-end section of the cabinetry market. If Michael's transition from floor sweeper to investing in a WDMAX CNC with an automated sweeper arm is anything to go by, their trajectory into the high-end cabinetry sector looks promising.

