



FROM BOWLING TO BUSINESS, AND BACK

As a former competitive collegiate bowler, Nick Vaughn assumed the sport would always be part of his life. He was less sure that he'd someday enjoy bowling in his own home.

"I probably had a daydream once or twice of having home bowling lanes one day, but it wasn't something I ever truly thought would happen," he says.

Today Vaughn, his wife, and their two children (ages 9 and 13) enjoy bowling on their very own lanes in their Kansas City home. "My family knows my passion for bowling and was very supportive of the idea of installing the lanes," he says.

Vaughn began his collegiate career at University of Arizona, transferring to Wichita State University after earning a spot on its national championship men's bowling team.

"Bowling has done a lot for me since the day I started at age 14," he said. "It was clear bowling was for me as I quickly started to have some success competitively. I ended up pursuing a career in business vs. bowling, but I owe a lot of my business success to bowling. Bowling helped me build confidence, allowed me to set goals, and taught me the discipline and patience required to achieve them. Bowling also taught me how to work with a team and not only understand my strengths and weaknesses but also the strengths and weaknesses of my teammates. These skills translate almost perfectly to business. Bowling helped me in business, and the success in business provided the financial means to have bowling in my home. It feels like it's all come full circle."

But you don't have to be a former competitor to enjoy home bowling.

"Even non-bowlers like to bowl every now and then," says Vaughn. "It's always fun having friends over, but when you can bowl together, it makes it that much more enjoyable. Entertaining with friends and family is for sure the best part of having our own bowling entertainment space."

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ADVICE AND OPTIONS FOR POTENTIAL HOME BOWLERS

"Our two biggest design considerations were length of space and noise control. Regulation lanes require a lot of room, once you include ball return machinery, the approach, and the players' seating area. Our solution was to build under the garages, not only so we would have the length required, but also so the machines would be sound-insulated."



Even homes spaces that can't fit standard lanes can accommodate authentic bowling, says Michael Postema, Director of Modernization Sales. "Epicenter® reduced-length lanes can be as much as 20' shorter than regulation lanes," says Postema. "This gives homeowners more flexibility to fit bowling into their design plans. Their families and guests can still enjoy an authentic bowling experience using traditional bowling balls and pins. Duckpin Social® is another Brunswick innovation that's popular with homeowners. This spin on traditional duckpin bowling can be installed in as little as 31 feet. Bowling shoes aren't required, and every player uses a smaller, one-size-fits-all duckpin bowling ball."

"I would definitely recommend Brunswick to other homeowners," he says. "I also recommend buying new machines rather than used; older machines are less expensive, but you will want your equipment to work when you have guests over. Breakdowns at the bowling alley are not a big deal to the players, but at your house, it's no fun."

Vaughn worked with Brunswick Bowling supplier Jayhawk Bowling, choosing to install two Brunswick regulation lanes, Sync scoring system, Brunswick Center Stage Seating and Brunswick GSX Pinsetters

"I didn't want to become a part-time mechanic, and I know that Brunswick equipment works," says Vaughn. "Brunswick has good customer service and a great tech team. And I was pleasantly surprised by all the fun games that Sync comes with. The kids enjoy the nontraditional games."

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