

The Tint Shop

In the late 1980s, Shane Foster was a busy college student in Colorado Springs, Colorado, who was not looking for a job to add to his workload. But, when a friend, who was moving away, approached him about taking his place at a shop installing tint on cars, he stepped in and took the position. This decision would put Foster on the unplanned but successful path to business ownership.

Originally from Griffin, Georgia, Foster returned to his home state in 1989, to set up The Tint Shop in Milledgeville for a couple of local residents. Shortly after the business was established, Foster took total ownership, in addition to being a full-time student at Georgia College.

In those early days of the business, times were tough and Foster struggled to make ends meet. That is until a law was passed regulating the level of the tint's darkness that could be used on cars. Oddly enough, an article in the Union Recorder inquiring how the law would affect Foster's business created an unexpected result.

"After the article in the newspaper came out, my business exploded," said Foster. "I went from not having enough work to be open full-time to having to add employees just to meet the demand."

Foster explains at that time most of his customers were young people wanting to improve the look of their cars. In the years since, the business has expanded to include more practical uses of the services sold that attracts a wider range of customers-from the young to senior citizens.

In recent years, the Shop added the service of window tinting for homes and workplaces. This would prove to be a very wise business move, as it has taken over the majority of their contracted jobs.

Tinting, both of car and home/business windows, has many advantages according to Foster. It reflects heat, protects against fading of material and furniture, provides glare reduction, and most importantly to one's health, provides vital protection from harmful UV rays.

"Tinting the windows in your home/office can and will save you money for years to come. The advantages and savings are endless," said Foster. "You will be more comfortable knowing that your furniture and flooring is protected. Plus, you will be warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer, while saving at least 20% or more on your energy bills."

Being centrally located and in the lake country of Georgia has proven to be a boon to Foster's business throughout the years. Many homes on both Oconee and Sinclair lakes are built with water facing walls of windows so that the owners may enjoy the view. But, that view can be diminished by the glare of the hot southern sun.

"Our high-quality tints allow homeowners to keep their beautiful views while staying comfortable and protecting their property," added Foster.

Foster is a successful businessman who also feels connected to the community he has called home for over 26 years. While raising his family in Milledgeville, he has served as a Boy Scout Leader and a baseball coach. He has sponsored both local youth league baseball and softball teams. His path might not have been planned, but his journey has led him to great success.

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