

CHARLIE CAFFYN

Bradford on Avon

Charlie Caffyn, owner, designer/maker

As I look out of my office window, I can see my kids screaming their heads off on the trampoline and spraying each with the hose pipe from the paddling pool – a really lovely thing to see from your work space. Getting to see so much of your kids growing up is probably the best thing about working from home. I could never in a million years go back to office life. Not a chance.

My workshop is in my converted garage, where I design and make modern, timeless pieces of

furniture. The flexibility is great, although I am pretty strict – I start at 8am and don't stop until 6pm (unless it's my turn to pick the kids up from school). But if I am needed in the house, I can be there in seconds.

I started working from home when I was 30 (I'm now 45). Before that, I had a job in Hong Kong; I was just working too hard, and it wasn't sustainable. I was taking around 150 flights a year, and spent up to six nights a week in hotels.

Now, the only disruption I have is when my border collie, Jack, wanders into the workshop and gives me a 'sod this, let's go for a walk' look, and, you know what, I can just go for walk with the dog. ■

www.charliecaffyn.co.uk

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Charlie's most welcome distraction from creating furniture is his dog, Jack