



After transforming their Wilmington home garage space, the Hales asked George Martin to work wonders at their Wrightsville Beach garage.

Functionality Meets Aesthetics With

GarageTek

BY MONICA YOUNG
PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMIE HOBBS
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When Leslie Hales pondered what to get her husband Barry for his birthday, she recalled he had taken note of GarageTek systems that he had seen advertised in magazines. With several cars and garage space for seven cars, one would think the family had plenty of garage space for their needs. While space was not an issue, efficiency was. GarageTek proved just what the Hales family needed to maximize their prime garage real estate.

“They had inefficient storage stuck in the middle of their garage so they lost a lot of room. We decided to clean out, paint and demolish the

GarageTek specializes in service, not just products. Martin notes that they clean out the garage and work with the homeowner to establish three stacks of stuff: to keep, to discard or recycle, and to donate.

poorly thought-out middle storage area along with the side storage,” says George Martin, owner of GarageTek of Coastal NC.

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establish three stacks of stuff: to keep, to discard or recycle, and to donate. Recycled goods may go to Habitat for Humanity or Play It Again Sports. Most jobs take one day while some with wall-to-wall stuff can stretch out over two or three days. Martin and crew take everything out and by the day’s end have it back in new, improved and streamlined spots.

“We donated a tremendous amount of clothes and tools [from the Hales] to Habitat and to Goodwill. We transformed it from a garage/dog house for their yellow, chocolate and black Labs to a great place to have an oyster roast or clambake,” says Martin.

During the project, Barry Hales was glad to see his additional garage space return to an organized location for his vintage and everyday vehicles. Martin installed large storage spaces over the doors in the large garage and



Bicycles were moved from a stack to being stored on the wall to reclaim valuable floor space.

Martin explains that the goal was to give the family functional storage at the condo. He emptied the rooms and then designed a system to hold five bikes, fishing rods, shelving, space for the dogs and yet still be used to garage their car.

"GarageTek has been great and so helpful. It cost what he said it was going to cost, and I'm thrilled with the functionality of it," says Barry Hales.

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created a work area for tinkering with the antique cars. Side storage was made so that the back garage could be used as was a shoe storage area.

Another factor GarageTek handled during the transformation was removing particle board that had soaked up moisture from Wilmington's coastal setting. Martin continually sees this problem in coastal garages. The materials that GarageTek uses are not susceptible to absorbing moisture like most standard garage building materials are.

The Hales family was so impressed by the change in organization and aesthetics that they enlisted GarageTek to transform their Wrightsville Beach condo as well.

"George took two rooms of stuff and put it into one room. It had ended up that downstairs was just the fishing room," says Hales.



Creating storage off of the ground gave enough room to park a car, the space's original purpose.

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