

CARPENTER

NATHAN MCWAYNE

"PRACTICE THOSE
FRACTIONS! MATH IS
USEFUL YOUR WHOLE
LIFE, FOR WORK AND
FOR FUN!"



Pronunciation:

(nay-thun mac-wane)

Life: 1971 - present

Location: Malden,
Massachusetts

Known for: Carpentry
and love for math and
science

MATH HERO

Nathan uses math
everywhere in his jobs:

- He measures the spaces where he will work and estimates how much wood he needs. Then, he calculates the costs. Finally, he measures the wood several times before cutting it, as he needs different sizes.
- He cuts angles or curves to fit the wood in places around corners or other objects.
- He uses addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, as well as fractions when he measures in inches.

FROM WOOD BLOCKS TO MATH

- Nathan McWayne is a finish carpenter. Finish carpenters build things from wood in a shop, such as kitchen cabinets, and then go to houses to install them.
- Nathan grew up in California, where he would build things out of wooden blocks as a child. He was very interested in building things with wood, so at 16 years of age, he began working at a woodshop.
- Nathan worked for over 20 years as a finish carpenter. Now he teaches middle school science in Massachusetts.
- Nathan uses math to explain science concepts like weight, and volume.

REFERENCES

- G. Melzi, personal communication, June, 2022.
- TheNKBA. (2020, June 12). *How to become a Finish Carpenter* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VlegHIWhk_g
- McWayne, N. (2022). *Nathan McWayne and family* [Photograph]. Personal Collection.