

Fifty Shades of forge! Struggling blacksmith turns his business around by creating sex metal bondage gear worth up to £15K

- Colum Collins, 27, from Lancashire used to create candle holders and fences
- Idea to branch out came when he was asked to make metal bondage chair
- Specialises in normal-looking household items with secret kinky attachments
- Wife Hannah, 24, helps by testing out the saucy metal contraptions

A blacksmith who struggled to make a living has turned his business around by creating sexy metal bondage gear worth up to £15,000.

Colum Collins, 27, who lives near Preston, Lancashire was just an ordinary blacksmith creating candle holders and fences before he realised he could earn thousands making kinky BDSM furniture.

He set up Muloc Forge six years ago, but a chance encounter with a friend of a friend led to the bizarre new line of work when he was asked to make a metal bondage chair for a couple who loved practising BDSM - or bondage, domination, sadism and masochism.

Now he runs the blossoming business with his wife Hannah, 24, who often has to test out his saucy metal contraptions.

Colum said: 'I was quite shocked by it at first but I'm the sort of person who has a really strong stomach, so I was like fair enough.'

'We've never been into it ourselves, so it's not like we've got any background knowledge.'

'It's such a taboo industry to get into it, it's so hard, it's very cliquey. We've had to learn about it and try and get our names out there.'



Colum Collins, 27, from Lancashire turned his struggling blacksmith business around

my diversifying into saucy bondage furniture



© Triangle News
The Hand Forged Bondage Bed, £14,500 has a leather headboard, a hidden mirrored ceiling and a drop-down cabinet for toys

The father-of-two now has his own line of bondage equipment called Hidden In Plain Site, which features normal-looking household items that have secret kinky attachments.

One product is a hand-forged silk, bondage bed with a leather headboard,

which initially looks normal, but hides a full hidden mirrored ceiling and a cabinet that drops down to keep saucy sex toys inside.

Typically this would cost £15,000 and take one month of hand-forging to make.

Colum, who lives near Preston, Lancs, added: 'It's hard but I love it. It's something that I just thrive at. I've never been so happy in my job ever.'



© Triangle News
The Hidden X-Rack priced at £4,950. Colum got into a different side of the business after a friend of a friend commissioned him to make a bondage chair

As well as producing high-end products, much of Colum's business is centred on making metal cuffs and collars, which are popular with the BDSM community.

The most extreme example is permanent cuffs, which a customer must sign a waiver for before having them put on because once fitted, they cannot be removed before they're cut off.



Hannah, a former hairstylist, sets up events, does paperwork and gives Colum advice and ideas from a woman's perspective

He said: 'At the minute I'm literally the only person in the world offering them because it's so dangerous and crazy, that's why people in America are willing to travel all the way over the pond to come and see me.'

'Since this permanent stuff, people are really intrigued saying they've always

wanted it, that they're desperate for it and that they didn't know it existed before me - so they're booking in.'

Hannah, a former hairstylist, is the backbone of the company, setting up events, doing the paperwork and giving him advice and ideas from a woman's perspective.



Since launching his new endeavor Colum has attracted customers from as far away as the US who fly over to see him

But she said telling strangers what she and Colum do for a living often provoked raised eyebrows.

'I tend to get to know somebody first as a friend before telling them what we do,' she said.

es you find that people just judge you because of what you're doing as a business - and we've lost friendships because of that.

'It's easier to not tell somebody if you know they're not going to react well.'

Colum, on a recent trip round to his mums house, saw his auntie, a nun, and her friend, a matron, and they were gobsmacked when he revealed how he makes ends meet.

'I've never seen anyone try and kick me out of my own mum's house before, put it that way,' he said.

A member of Twitter, Instagram and Fetlife, the social network for the BDSM, fetish and kinky community, Colum posts avidly to drum up business for his products.

His latest top-secret experiment will see him turning a man into ironman by creating a full metal bodysuit for him to wear.

Colum still makes fences on the side, but says he hopes to soon do BDSM gear full time.



Colum still makes fences on the side, but says he hopes to soon do BDSM gear full time

He said: 'It's getting busy now, I'm having to take more time off from the other company to work for myself.'

'It's getting crazy now my name's getting out there, as you can imagine.'

And Colum has huge hope's for the business' future.

'I want to be the biggest name and the biggest brand out there. I want people to of heard of me all over the world,' he said.



Some of blacksmith worth that Colum Collins used to work on before becoming a BDSM specialist

'I would love to be going down the street and to be stopped with people going 'Oooh you're the bondage blacksmith.'

'I'd love the idea of people to know my name, my products, my ideas.

'To you it might just be bondage but to me it's artwork. What I do is art. I make pieces of art.

'I get a piece of steel, bend it, shape it, manipulate it into what I want it to be and as far as I'm concerned that's art and that needs sharing with the world.'