

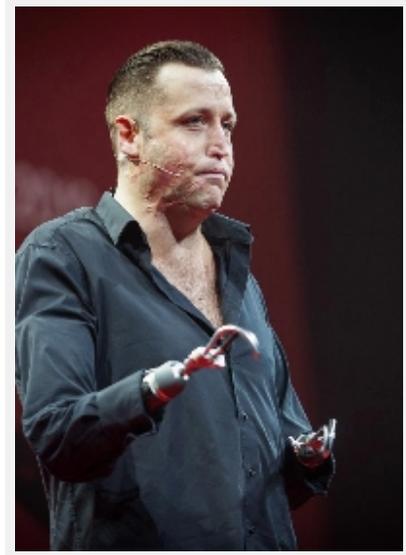
## Tom Nash

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### *DJ, Quadruple Amputee & Keynote Speaker*

Tom Nash had both his legs and arms amputated at the age of 19, the result of contracting the deadly Meningococcal Septicemia. Not that he let that stop him from achieving his goals for life. Today, he is a successful Australian DJ and an in demand speaker, who mesmerises audiences around the world.

Tom's unique talent for captivating people with this personal story, his dark sense of humour and his incredible wit are fused into grounded philosophies for life that he offers up to audiences. Inevitably, they walk away entertained, inspired, and deep in thought out their own approach to life and the universe.



#### ***More about Tom Nash:***

Tom Nash had just started university and was leading the typical life of a teenager when he was struck down by illness. By the time he asked for help from his sister, he could barely walk to the front door.

Tom had contracted Meningococcal Disease, a deadly blood poisoning with a high mortality rate. His family was told that he had a 10% chance of survival chance, at best and he agreed to be part of a trial of a drug called 'Activated Protein C'. That drug ended up being crucial in saving his life.

Tom lost both of his arms at the elbow, both of his legs below the knee, the use of one kidney, half of his liver, and scars on the lion's share of his remaining body. For a year after his amputations, as well as various other operations including skin grafts, Tom spent up to five hours of every day of his life, having bandages torn off most of the remaining skin on his body, so that his wounds could be cleaned and re-banded.

Tom Nash says it was learning to walk using prosthetics, that helped him learn a lot about himself, started him thinking more laterally and brought him to the realization that to get back on track, he'd need to approach everything differently to everyone else. In rehab, living with a number of people with different disabilities, he realised that every individual had something to offer, it was just a matter of working out what that something was, then working as a team to get things done.

Tom's tenacity for problem solving and optimism has led him on a journey he never dreamed of. He went back to university, switching from science to sound engineering and music business management, then went on to become a successful music writer, producer and DJ.

Tom views his physical situation as just another hurdle and says, "Everybody has hurdles, and everybody has some kind of disability, whether it be visible or invisible, external or internal, physical, mental, or emotional. The adversity is what helps build our character."

Tom's story of getting his life back on track, on step at a time, his truly inspirational and demonstrates that that despite hurdles or adversity, the human spirit and 'will to live' can prevail.

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