



## **Becker Mercedes-Benz Metris Van**

AFTERMARKET

With often utilitarian interiors and all the aerodynamic advantages of a rectangle, vans aren't the four-wheelers you fantasize about—until now. Becker Automotive Design's reimagined Mercedes-Benz Metris van takes the German marque's already gentrified transport and turns it into a posh executive escape. Features include bespoke audiovisual systems, top-tier connectivity, a selection of seating configurations (for as many as five passengers) and cabin comforts usually associated with exclusive aircraft.

"We source the interior materials from the same vendors that Mercedes-Benz uses to kit their Maybach models," says company founder and CEO Howard Becker. "But all structures of the rear interior, even the seat frames, are constructed by us in-house, from the ground up. And we add substantial materials for sound deadening and noise cancellation." Perhaps more impressive are the vehicle's command center–like capabilities. Notes Becker: "The latest high-speed 4G routers use boosters, hard-wired exterior antennas and multiple internet service providers to ensure the best signal strength at all times, and all audiovisual and mobile office electronics are controlled through our customized Crestron processing system." Take that, Tony Stark.

The power train—mating a 2.0-liter, turbocharged 4cylinder engine with a 7-speed transmission—remains the same as that of a factory-fresh Metris and is complemented by a Mercedes-Benz–sanctioned air suspension.

Becker's net result is the automotive equivalent of a geode rock: It's low-profile on the outside but stunning when opened, displaying the latest in high-tech and high-touch amenities—a van at the vanguard. *beckerautodesign.com* **V.M.** 

ENGINE: 2.O-liter, turbocharged 4-cylinder POWER: 208 hp TOP SPEED: 100 mph BASE PRICE: \$150,000