

Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Shteeble - 05 May 2021 16:01

One example of a bad hobby would be watching youtube videos for entertainment purposes. Even though I don't have any intention of lusting, I am hiring youtube to be in charge of my shemiras einayim. That doesn't always work so well.

Another example of a bad hobby is playing a game on my phone. While certain games have almost no shemiras einayim issues, many will serve up ads. Then I am trusting my shemiras einayim to the millions of advertisers out there. Also a bad idea.

So I'm on a hunt. A search. A hobby that I can trust will not breach my shmiras einayim. Think you got one? Please post!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by wilnevergiveup - 05 May 2021 17:42

Perhaps it's not enough to just focus on *sur meirah* and look for something with a little more productivity than watching youtube. Here is what comes to mind off the top of my head.

1. Learning/practicing an instrument
2. exercising
3. listening to music
4. calling a friend or relative
5. cooking
6. woodworking
7. calligraphy
8. photography
9. puzzles
10. learn some magic tricks
11. become a clown
12. writing
13. make super for your family
14. take out the garbage (just kidding)
15. reading
16. polishing the silver (although if you do this as a hobby, you may need to see someone)

17. star gazing
18. collecting sea shells
19. writing a diary (*cheshbon hanefesh*)
20. fishing
21. volunteering (bikur cholim, hospital, special needs, etc.)
22. become part of the local *chevra kadisha*
23. botany
24. farming

Feel free to add your own.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by DavidT - 05 May 2021 18:24

25 KOSHER Hobbies

1. Basket Weaving:

Basket weaving is a great stress reliever. It also produces some awesome home decorating and gifting items.

2. Soap Making:

Making soap is a fun, simple, low-cost family activity. Once you get the hang of it, you may never want to buy store-bought soap again!

3. Jewelry Making:

If you enjoy jewelry making, keep in mind that there is a huge market out there for men's and women's jewelry. Your hobby may become a very lucrative career one day!

4. Photo Editing:

Photo editing requires very little equipment - a PC and digital image editing software is all you need to alter your digital shots to perfection.

5. Scrapbooking:

With just some basic supplies, scrapbooking allows you to tell a story; document family history, events and moments of your life; and preserve cherished memories.

6. Calligraphy:

Trying out calligraphy – the art of producing decorative handwriting or lettering with a pen or brush – does not require a big investment – just some pens, nibs, ink, and paper.

7. Perfumery (perfume making):

It is easy to make perfume with only a few ingredients, and you can create your own scent or use a recipe.

8. Stitching:

Stitching a tallis or tefillin bag is a unique gift for that special guy in your life.

9. Stamp Collecting:

Stamp collecting is an oldie but goodie pastime. I can still remember checking the mail for unusual and colorful stamps and buying stamp “plate blocks” at the post office.

10. Coin Collecting:

Coin collecting is another oldie-but-goodie hobby. As a young collector, it was thrilling to stumble upon Silver Dollars, Mercury Dimes and Buffalo Nickels.

11. Tie-Dyeing:

If you love colorful abstracts, like me, you will probably enjoy tie-dyeing – and maybe make it into a business, like I did in high school.

12. Floral Arranging:

This hobby can come in handy if you want to create unique centerpieces for a simcha.

13. Dollhouse Miniatures:

Thousands of collectors of all ages create and build their own doll houses and furnishings, globally. If you're looking for a hobby with "community," this is a great choice.

14. Resin Crafts:

You can create jewelry, home accents, and more with resin crafts.

15. Stained Glass:

Stained glass work is a fun, creative outlet. Windows, lamp shades, stained glass boxes, window hangings, mosaics, jewelry, fused glass pieces and home decorations are just some of the items you can learn to make.

16. Leather Crafting:

Leather crafting project possibilities are endless. If you are a beginner, start out with simpler projects, such as a wallet, card holder, watch strap, journal cover, bracelet, sunglasses case, belt, or dog collar.

17. Clock Making:

If you feel clock making is what makes you tick, go for it! Make one for your home and give one away as a timely gift.

18. Mosaic Art:

A creative mosaic art piece can add a splash of color to your home or office.

19. Polymer and Clay Sculpting:

With polymer and clay sculpting, let your imagination go wild – you can sculpt anything from jewelry to cartoon figurines.

20. Decoupage:

Decoupage is a simple way of turning everyday items like wooden tissue box covers into a work of art!

21. Wood Crafts:

Woodworking doesn't have to be intimidating. Most beginners' projects require scrap lumber, basic tools, and simple instructions.

22. Broken Crayon Art:

There is nothing cooler than repurposing broken crayons to make amazing creations such as newly remolded crayons, candles, and drip melted crayon art pictures.

23. Card Making:

If you find it as challenging as I do to find appropriate greeting cards, card making will enable you to make your own.

24. Paper Quilling:

Quilling is an inexpensive craft – you just need paper, glue, and inspiration to make a stunning design.

25. Journaling:

Last but not least, you don't have to be a writer to enjoy a DIY journaling set. Use your creativity to customize and embellish a journal to include all your thoughts, dreams, and memories.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Shteeble - 06 May 2021 14:44

Thanks for posting your ideas.

Another example of a bad hobby/form of relaxation for me is Google News. It's just another example of how I let Google be in charge of my shemiras einayim.

I plan on going through all the suggestions above. Especially helpful are those ideas which can be performed mindlessly with almost zero energy, as that's when I need them the most. They are also coming to replace bad hobbies which can be done mindlessly, so they are best off being on the same playing field.

Guys, please continue to post your ideas, either one at a time, or long lists. It's all good. Thanks!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Lou - 06 May 2021 22:45

This is certainly not the best option in the world, but if you are hooked on watching videos for entertainment there is a site called Gruntig.net that has many Jewish music videos, some interesting news and even some silly videos. They are pretty good about blocking any person that happens to not be tznius in any video they post. If you have a decent filter you will not be able to access youtube or vimeo etc from their site.

Hatzlocha

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by #makelifegreatagain - 07 May 2021 00:28

Writing or anything else you can make for someone else can be a very satisfying hobby. I'd also add hiking combined with photography, and even Geocaching (basically there are things hidden all over the world that you can find with the help of the app and a GPS. It's basically a scavenger hunt for big people!). Listening to music is another great hobby. Finally, single player board games are another hobby that can make your brain feel like its actually doing something. There are a lot more of them than you might think!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by lionking - 07 May 2021 03:08

[Shteeble wrote on 05 May 2021 16:01:](#)

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So I'm on a hunt. A search. A hobby that I can trust will not breach my shmiras einayim. Think you got one? Please post!

How about a hobby to find a good hobby?!

I have Stack Exchange's app on my phone and I scroll through questions especially on their Mi Yodeya site.

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Posted by lionking - 07 May 2021 03:14

[Lou wrote on 06 May 2021 22:45:](#)

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Hatzlocha

Just mentioning in case someone needs this info.

A decent filter would be able to be customized to allow only embedded YouTube videos through Gruntig while blocking access to YouTube. Speak to your filtering company for different options if necessary.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Lou - 07 May 2021 03:29

[lionking wrote on 07 May 2021 03:14:](#)

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Yes, exactly what I meant to say. Techloq and Nativ both do this.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by HappyYid - 07 May 2021 03:33

[Lou wrote on 07 May 2021 03:29:](#)

[lionking wrote on 07 May 2021 03:14:](#)

[Lou wrote on 06 May 2021 22:45:](#)

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Oh good to know, I have Techloq and wanted some YouTube videos opened through different sites, I didn't know they could do that.

Thanks!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Lou - 07 May 2021 03:38

[HappyYid wrote on 07 May 2021 03:33:](#)

[Lou wrote on 07 May 2021 03:29:](#)

[lionking wrote on 07 May 2021 03:14:](#)

[Lou wrote on 06 May 2021 22:45:](#)

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Thanks!

They can do 2 things. They can give you access to the site (Gruntig,Lakewood scoop,Yeshiva world etc) and include all videos on the site. In addition you can request a particular youtube video to be unblocked. If they approve it then they will unblock it for you.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by bm263 - 07 May 2021 04:52

Lakewood daf yomi/Daf by Sruly - excellent hobby, highly addictive, no shmiras einayim issues.

May cause slight anxiety if you start falling behind.

My advice: skip to wherever he's up to and enjoy the show.

www.lakewooddafyomi.com/

Also on Torah anytime (under Rabbi Sruly Bornstein), vimeo, whatsapp, and more.

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Shteeble - 07 May 2021 12:39

[#makelifegreatagain wrote on 07 May 2021 00:28:](#)

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Wow, single player boardgames! I have to look into that. Thanks!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Shteeble - 13 May 2021 13:25

Can anyone recommend a single player board game they enjoy?

Thanks!

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Re: Good Hobby = No Risk of unintended lust
Posted by Snowflake - 13 May 2021 15:09

I love to play chess. It's not single player, but you can play online in safe sites. It really exercises your brain.

I use lichess.org or chess.com

I usually play blitz chess, so it's 5 min total for each player. A match usually ends in 5-7 mins.

There are a lot of introductory chess videos and you can play against the pc if you will.

I also like to play "go" (japanese board game), but it's not so popular, so you don't have many good websites.

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