



How to be a Hipster

Today, hipsters can be seen more frequently than ever before. They are part of a subculture that rejects everything mainstream in favor of expressing their own uniqueness. If this sort of thing appeals to you, you might like to consider becoming a hipster yourself. Read on to find out more.

1 Dress like a hipster

Hipsters would never wear designer clothes because they prefer to create their own image. Indispensable items in a hipster's wardrobe include skinny jeans or leggings and T-shirts with ironic messages printed on them. Plaid and flower patterns are also popular, and it doesn't matter if the garments don't match. They wear cowboy boots or Converse sneakers on their feet, and as far as accessories are concerned, they wear sunglasses, bright belts, and they generally have a couple of piercings.

2 Shopping

Consumerism is something that hipsters can't stand, so they don't go shopping very often. Instead they prefer to make use of old things, and they love vintage clothing. Female hipsters raid their grandmothers' closets looking for old dresses, while the men go in search of Grandpa's old shirts – the ones without a collar. Of course, the clothes generally need to be altered to make them fit, but a hipster is a genius with a needle and thread, so this isn't a problem. The only stores a hipster will enter are thrift shops, craft stores, or their local vintage boutique.

3 Lifestyle

Hipsters tend to be very bothered and upset about the way the world works – or doesn't work, in their view. They are usually well-informed because they spend hours every day sitting in cafés surfing the Internet on their smartphones or tablets – the only exceptions to their aversion to consumerism. Hipsters are usually young – the age ranges from late teens to mid-30s. Most go to college, and many of them base their career choices around music, art, or fashion.

4 Entertainment

Hipsters love all things independent and Indie music is a big part of what they represent. They are always the first to hear about new bands, but once a band becomes popular, they stop listening to it. A typical hipster line is: "I liked them before they were cool." When it comes to movies, they watch independent and foreign films, and they attend independent productions at the theater. Hipsters also love reading, especially books about political science, anthropology, and sociology.

5 Food

Eating meat isn't popular with hipsters, and most of them tend to be vegetarians or vegans. Many grow their own food in their gardens or on a balcony; if not, they go to natural food markets instead. Fruit, coffee, and Asian food are very popular with hipsters, and they love making meals for their foodie friends.

So if you want to be a hipster, forget everything you know about being "cool" and find your own unique way to fit in with this trend.



b Read the article again and choose the right answer.

- 1 The hipster subculture is made up of people who want...
 - a to look cool.
 - b to be different.
 - c to fit in.
- 2 Hipsters don't tend to wear...
 - a sports shoes.
 - b colorful patterns.
 - c baggy pants.
- 3 Hipsters sometimes go shopping in...
 - a stores that support a good cause.
 - b stores that sell the latest fashions.
 - c places that everyone knows.
- 4 Many hipsters...
 - a like to read about politics.
 - b are involved in politics.
 - c know very little about politics.
- 5 Hipsters like new music...
 - a after it has become well known.
 - b until it becomes well known.
 - c when others stop liking it.
- 6 Hipsters enjoy food...
 - a from supermarkets.
 - b they produce themselves.
 - c in restaurants.

c Find the words or phrases in the text to match definitions 1–10:

- 1 adjective referring to ideas and opinions thought to be normal because they are shared by most people (*introduction*)

- 2 the general impression that a person gives (*paragraph 1*) _____
- 3 things that you wear or carry to match your clothes, e.g., bag, scarf (*paragraph 1*)

- 4 garments from a certain period in the past (*paragraph 2*) _____
- 5 things you use for sewing (*paragraph 2*)

- 6 worried about something (*paragraph 3*)

- 7 a strong feeling of not liking something (*paragraph 3*) _____
- 8 not influenced by anything else (*paragraph 4*)

- 9 people who don't eat any animal products at all (*paragraph 5*) _____
- 10 a person who is very interested in trying different dishes (*paragraph 5*)
