

Talking About Your Hobbies In English



When you want to get to know someone, ask about their hobbies and interests. Talking about hobbies means you can share details about yourself – and discover shared interests and free-time activities.

Here are some phrases you can use.

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Questions you can ask

What do you like doing?

What sort of hobbies do you have?

What do you get up to in your free time?

How to reply

In my free time I...

When I have some spare time I...

When I get the time, I...

I relax by watching TV / listening to music, etc.

My hobbies are bird-watching / playing sport, etc.

I'm interested in (+ noun / gerund)

I'm keen on (+ noun / gerund)

I'm into (+ noun / gerund)

I enjoy (+ noun / gerund)

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“I’m **really into** genealogy.”

Talking about hobbies in more detail

You can give more information about your hobbies and interests:

“I like **arts and crafts**. I’m a creative / practical person, and like doing things with my hands.”

“I’m an **outgoing** person, and like socialising / hanging out with friends.”

“I enjoy being **physically active**, and spend a lot of time playing sports and team games.”

Saying why you like your hobby

You can also explain why you spend time on your hobby to make the conversation longer and more interesting.

“I really enjoy going to the gym because...”

...it keeps me fit.

...it gets me out of the house, you know!

...it’s sociable. I’ve met lots of new people.

...it gives me something interesting to do with my time.

...it’s not very expensive, and anyone can do it!

“My hobbies are all creative...”

... I’ve always enjoyed painting and drawing.

... Because my job is technical, it’s good to spend time doing something completely different.

... I enjoy spending time making things like clothes.

More words that you can use to describe your hobbies:

creative

fascinating

practical

cheap

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different
unusual

Like doing vs like to do

We use like + gerund (ing form) to talk about general likes:

I **like fishing**.

We use like + infinitive to talk about more specific likes:

I like **to go fishing** at the weekend.

Extra Help

If you want more information for talking about what you like or dislike, check out [this page](#).

Now try the quiz

Talking About Hobbies

Level: Elementary and above

Start Quiz

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