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Your Hobbies Can Help Boost Your Resumé

Try out some new hobbies this summer

There's no time like the present to discover your passions and interests. Soon you'll be busy applying to post-secondary school — and having hobbies during this time is extremely beneficial. **Take advantage of your time off by doing something fun** that can also prepare you for the next chapter in your life. Hobbies are a great way to **learn more about yourself, gain essential skills, and boost your resumé.**

How your hobbies can benefit you

Hobbies are typically viewed simply as activities that we enjoy doing in our free time. But did you know that there are actually **many benefits to having hobbies** other than being a source of entertainment? Discover **how picking up some hobbies this year can help you in all aspects of your life:**

1. Gain valuable skills

An added bonus of having fun with your hobbies is they can provide you with valuable skills! The **time and effort you put into your hobby can translate into soft skills** that are essential in all aspects of your life. For example, if your hobby is playing soccer, then you'll learn skills such as teamwork, perseverance, decision making, and more. These skills will come in handy when you're working on an assignment, applying to school, getting your first job, and anything else you take on.



2. Discover your interests and passions

Hobbies are a great way to **find your interests and passions in a low-stakes environment.** If you're not sure what you want to study in school or what kind of career you want, hobbies are the best way to narrow down what you like and don't like. If you do know what you're going to study, then hobbies provide the opportunity to expand your interests outside of your education and explore more aspects of your personality. Hobbies are a great motivator in helping you **find a sense of direction and purpose in your life.**

3. Impress schools, employers, and scholarship administrators

Schools, employers, and scholarship admins aren't just looking for individuals who excel academically — they also **want individuals who're well-rounded**. If you've spent a good amount of time on a hobby, you'll demonstrate time management, focus, dedication, passion, and more — all of which **make you an impressive candidate**. Hobbies are a great way to showcase your personality and values. You can even use your hobbies as a talking point in your application essays to demonstrate your passions and skills.

4. Cope with stress

Hobbies are a great way to distance yourself from a rough day or stressful activity. Hobbies aren't just a distraction — they help remind you that there's **more to who you are than just school or work**. You're not just a student — you're also an athlete, artist, gamer, writer, etc. By doing an activity that you enjoy, you're giving your mind and body a chance to relax after feeling tense and stressed.

5. Structure your time

Between school, homework, work, sports, clubs, and everything else going on in your life, it can be easy to spend your free time watching TV or continuing to work on assignments without a break. Having a hobby can help you **structure your time so that you're more efficient**. If you know you've got an assignment to work on after school, then you'll focus on completing it in a timely manner so that you'll have time to work on the painting you've been dying to finish.



6. Gain new social connections

Hobbies are a great way to **make new connections with people**. If your hobby is an activity that can be done in a group, like a sport, art class, or book club, then you'll have the opportunity to **be around like-minded individuals**. But even if your hobby is something that's done individually, like knitting or writing, you'll be able to talk with others about your hobby and **share your passions** to create a bond.

Six hobbies to boost your resumé

Are you **searching for some new hobbies** to try? Do you already have a hobby but **aren't sure how it can boost your resumé**? Discover how activities you love can be beneficial in all aspects of your life.

Check out these **six examples of hobbies and the skills you can learn from them** that'll make you a great candidate for school, work, and scholarships:

1. Photography

Do you have an eye for beauty? Do you like capturing moments in time in a creative way? Photography may be the best hobby for you! Through photography, you develop strong skills in **creativity, attention to detail, patience, time management, and communication.**

2. Learn a language

Learning a language is a great hobby for your career or if you want to travel. Not only are you boosting your resumé by adding another language to your skillset, but you'll also gain some important soft skills like **focus, communication, patience, and self-assessment.**

3. Cooking / baking

Cooking and baking are great activities to try out — especially since you'll get a yummy treat at the end! With this hobby, you'll develop skills like **time management, problem solving, attention to detail, and confidence.**



4. Drawing / painting / digital art

Are you an artistic person? Are you bursting with creativity? Give drawing, painting, or even digital art a chance. With a hobby like this, you'll learn key skills like **confidence, problem solving, receiving constructive feedback, and organization.**

5. Pottery

What doesn't sound fun about playing with clay and forming it into whatever you desire? This is a great hobby for those who are creative and love to get messy. With a hobby like pottery, you'll develop skills like **persistence, patience, drive, creativity, and adaptability.**

6. Creative writing / blogging

If you're someone who enjoys storytelling, then creative writing or blogging could be for you! With a hobby like this, you'll develop key skills such as **critical thinking, planning, communication, organization, brainstorming, and decision making.**

Find your passion and have fun!

See how simple it is to develop essential skills by picking up a hobby or two? **Get creative and find your passion this summer!**

