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Collectible hobbies

If you treasure figurines like Iron Man and such, hoard die-cast versions of your favourite cars, or amass just about anything that holds value to you, then you are a bona fide collector. This is possibly the most contentious of all our obsessions because this requires the most explanations and the least understanding. It can be hard to understand why you would want a figure of Optimus Prime from a layman's perspective, but it holds value to you, who rocked out to Stan Bush's "The Touch" in the hit 1986 movie "The Transformers: The Movie," and the emotions



surrounding it.

It should be noted that discussing collectibles is like skirting around the rabbit hole because collectibles are such a diverse topic that it deserves a separate article.

Gadgets and Gaming

Perhaps, the most 'socially acceptable' of our interests are in our keen interest in gadgets. Sure, the interest may have been more niche back in the 90s, but now, a person is considered strange and elicits confusion if they do not at least have a smartphone.

For the real tech-nerd though, the smartphone is just the start. They will have nifty things like smartwatches, good wireless earbuds, VR headsets for that virtual life immersion, etc. An offshoot to being a tech-nerd is also being an audiophile i.e., a nerd for all things sound. If you know anyone in this category, do not be surprised if you see them have four different headphones and six different in-ear earbuds, and listen to music on devices that you know as MP3 players, but they will correct your grammar and explain that it is actually called a DAP (digital audio player).

Another offshoot to loving all things tech is the love of computers, and in turn, gaming. Do not assume that anyone who plays Candy Crush is a gamer though; they are just killing time. Real gaming, and hence real gamers, are a whole different breed, so much so that it is now considered a profession, and even a sport worth representing in the Olympics. Everyone's got the genre they love so no one is ever alone in their likes. Plus, online gaming has made the world come closer together. This is one of those obsessions that you can be sure will stick around long after your hair's gone grey and gone the way of the dodo, so it is advisable for loved ones to simply live with it to avoid causing ripples in paradise.

**Watches and perfumes**

The same kind of emotions that invoke a love of cars and their inner workings also influence a love of clockwork. Be it a simple elegant timepiece, one that showcases its mechanical complexity for all to see, or one that has a rich history; there will always be an admirer who would defend it to the hilt. Most of us cannot afford the ones we truly desire, but it gives us a target to aim for if nothing else.

Similarly, the same kind of desire can explain why some men adore fragrances and make an active hobby of collecting their favourite perfumes. Even the bottles become an object of admiration.

There are plenty more where that came from, but it is safe to say that most men's obsessions tend to gravitate toward the ones mentioned. And to be honest, neither one is cheap, so it is always important to set yourself SOME restrictions, especially those who fall into multiple categories. It is not worth it to score your latest haul if you have to remain a penniless pitiful fool for the rest of the month. Hence, plan wisely, so that while you still have to hear the man-child moniker, at least you will not have to borrow from them to last the rest of the month.

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