

How to Hipster

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Contrary to popular belief, being a hipster is not as simple as it seems. It entails countless hours of effort and surprisingly high amounts of money. But worry not, for it is all worth it. There are many aspects to take into account, ranging from your appearance to your political beliefs. So if you think you have got what it takes, sit back, buckle up, and enjoy the ride; your fascinating journey through the hipster universe has just begun.

As we venture through its depths, the first thing you will notice is its creative, one-of-a-kind fashion. This is because we, humans, are visual creatures. Thus, the way the world (and everything in it) penetrates through our eyes and into our brain cortex will be the most important aspect to take into account. The rule of thumb for hipster fashion is that you have to look unique and vintage, but without giving the impression that you have put a lot of effort into it. In other words, casually cool. Foreseeing the event that this might seem somewhat unclear to some folks, a more pragmatic and concise attire guide has been carefully crafted according to the Hipster Society of Highest Standards(HSHS): a lumberjack knit beanie for a crown; Wayfarer Ray-Bans concealing the eyes (pristine eyesight is not a problem, as non-augmenting crystals can be worn); a neatly trimmed beard in the event that you pee on your feet; an open flannel shirt of a colour of personal choice (red is standard) with a white or black T-shirt underneath(in this case black and white are sacred and are to remain untouched); tight skinny trousers with holes in the knees (hipsters are immune to cold temperatures) to keep everything in place and convey a slim look (there is room for creativity colour-wise); Air Nikes or Classic Adidas (white) to make the world tremble as you saunter by.

With the realms of hipster fashion behind in our path, our fabulous journey will continue through deeper space: hipster lifestyle. It is key that you understand the following: there are some axioms in hipster culture that the undeveloped human mind will never comprehend and that are to remain unquestioned. The most important ones are as follows:

- Axiom #1: the government and the big corporations are the source of all evil. This does not mean that you cannot consume goods from multinational companies, as that would represent a problem when following the attire guide by the HSHS. It means that you have to be morally and ethically opposed to it, and share your opinion with everyone who is not interested in it.

- Axiom #2: go organic or go home. Everybody knows GMOs damage your health, resulting in a deterioration of your looks. This is why you should go organic and reject GMOs, even if that means starvation. Cigarettes are a controversial topic, but the HSHS has put an end to all discussion by stating that, even though they are harmful for your health, cigarettes enhance your looks, thus, making them a necessary evil in hipster culture.

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- Axiom #3: Read for a degree that enriches your mind and, most importantly, allows you to spread hipster culture. The HSHS strongly encourages beginner hipsters to pursue a degree in Philosophy. This will enable you to educate other lower forms of life, such as your lawyer uncle or your right-wing relatives who never cease to spread Whatsapp messages criticizing the noble socialist party.

All that has been said up to this point will converge and then explode, causing the Big Bang of hipstering and releasing immense amounts of energy. This hipster energy emanates in the form of Instagram almighty. If you have not heard about it before, you are probably a hermit or have no access to an internet connection, and, if your case is the latter, you should probably consider abandoning the idea of becoming a hipster. Having said that, let me introduce you to the lord and saviour of hipsters: Instagram. Through their iPhones and Macbooks, hipsters gather in virtual communion in the cyberspace by posting their mastercraft shots and applying an entire arsenal of filters and different visual effects on them. These are always accompanied by highly deep legends adorned with “Hashtags”, which are represented in the form of a “#” plus any idea a hipster mind can conceive, related or non-related to the photograph in question. The combination of an Instagram picture and its corresponding Hashtags is the highest form of hipster poetry and personal expression known to mankind. A hipster’s world is fully conveyed in his Instagram account, it being the part of the hipster’s soul that separates from his own corporality. This is why, as Shakespeare, one of the first pre-modern hipsters, once proclaimed, “To know a hipster well, were to know his Instagram account.”

Sadly, our magnificent journey is coming to its twilight. Nonetheless, you are about to embark on your own personal adventure into the world of hipsters. But, just in the event that the idea of being a hipster is still not appealing enough, let yourself be persuaded by a few more words of wisdom. Like an old anonymous hipster prophet once said: “Carefully planned incoherence is what hipstering is all about. You resemble a fancy tramp who won the lottery but keeps dressing the way he used to in his days of wandering around pushing his old rusty trolley, the only difference being that you will be spending a fortune in the process. Organic is the way to go, so do not feel bad about smoking, so long as you are supporting your friendly local tobacco farmers. The differences between a hipster’s Instagram account and a 90 year old lady who puts 10 pounds of makeup on by herself are virtually nonexistent: both are grotesque, poorly done and saturated, but still unique and stylish. Besides, who can help loving a cute old lady? Do not despair if your arguments are contradictory in ways you would never have thought possible, just remember that being cooler than the other person is always the best answer! Basically, you will be a walking paradox, a unique walking paradox that will puzzle everyone as much as Brexit puzzles the rest of the world.” So, why would anyone choose to become a hipster? Simple, because being a hipster is like being a rockstar, but without the fame, or the fans, or the money, or any of the good things being a superstar entails. Oh well, at least you will be drowning in the sweet nectar of likes which your fellow hipsters will bestow you on Instagram.