

# HOBBYIST

● WORLD

HOOK  
LINE &  
SINKER

SHOOT  
TO  
STUN

LET'S  
PLAY

EVENTFULLY  
YOURS

BABY RIDER

# HOBBYIST<sup>TM</sup>

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# BABY RIDER

With Mother's day closer than not, we at Hobbyists World couldn't think of a better star hobbyist that Gul Panag. Though she has several feathers in her hat, her love for bikes is known far and wide, and with her little tot at her hip, she got candid with us about how her love for so many hobbies started, and how she's cultivating the same interests in her own son.

Q. Why do you think it's important to have a hobby, for adults and kids alike?

A. You need a certain amount of focus to have a hobby, and that always comes back to you in life, it makes you realise that you have to have some amount of discipline to pursue it. It's also de-stressing, helps with time management and brings something to your day to day life, perspective.

I think if children are introduced to good habits at a young age, it becomes a part of their lives. They learn to incorporate things into their day to day living, regardless of what someone else may think of it. To pick up things as an adult, because you're so stressed you're having a mental breakdown, to seek something as an intervention when things are going wrong, is much harder than when it's already a part of your life. It's like brushing your teeth before cavities happen, rather than starting to brush your teeth only when you realise you have way too many cavities. Introducing children to habits that will benefit them in the short term, and long term, is always a good idea.

Q. How were you introduced to biking?

A. A lot of the hobbies I pursue are ones that I was introduced to as a child myself. I would watch my parents' love for fitness, the outdoors, camping and trekking, and follow their example. Each one of these things is now an intrinsic part of my life. But biking was an exception, this hobby came from rebellion. The whole idea of only boys riding bikes bothered me. I started riding because in college I was given the choice of 2 hand me down vehicles, a gearless scooter, which the girls were expected to ride, and a bike, and





I was more drawn towards the bike, even though I didn't know how to ride it, only because I didn't like the fact that girls weren't supposed to ride bikes.

Q. What's your favourite type of bike to ride?

A. A cruiser. I'm not a fan of sports bikes because the saddle is very uncomfortable. Biking for me is meditative, maybe not in the traditional sense but it helps me get lost in my own thoughts, while still staying focused, and for that exact reason, riding a bike is very destressing.

Q. How do you take out time to ride?

A. I don't make it a mission to go and ride. I have a fixed day, Sundays, and whatever needs to be done on that day, be it going to the ATM or a meeting or whatever, I use the bike as my means of getting there. I do long trips too, but that's only once a year with all my cousins, but I can't wait that long to ride, so Sundays are bike days.

Q. What has been your favourite location to ride? Where is your dream riding destination?

A. I've loved riding in the mountains, just anywhere in the mountains. The energy, the environment are so pure and unadulterated, and you're out there with the nature, soaking in the sights, sounds (or the lack of them) and smells that are in offer.

Where I'd love to ride is the route between Cape town and the Cape of good home in South Africa, where while going south you have the Atlantic Ocean on your right and the Indian Ocean on your right when you're going back. The other one would be the smaller roads in the south of Spain, in Costa del Sol.

Along with a passion for biking, Gul is also a licensed hobby pilot, loves adventure sports and has a passion for fitness, which she shares with her son, Nihal, and her two dogs, Gina and Vegas.

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# SHOOT TO THE

# SUN

Phone Photography with  
**ANEESH BHASIN**

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With the quality of phone cameras steadily getting better day by day, a large portion of people are opting out of carrying clunky camera equipment around with them, Aneesh Bhasin is one of several such people. Aneesh Bhasin is an entrepreneur and the co-founder of Svami, a premium all natural mixers brand, and an award winning commercial and lifestyle photographer who as worked with brands like Starbucks and Dom Pérignon, now turned hobby photographer. Aneesh sat down with us, and told us all about how phones are revolutionising the photography game.

Q. Where did you learn photography and how did you start?

A. Photography became a serious hobby when I was in 11th grade. I started experimenting with a friends film SLR and that just got me hooked on to taking pictures. Reading up and experimenting with photography kept me busy over the next 2 years in school (to the point that I flunked my 12th boards) and right after school I started assisting photographers and learnt on the job in a small town called Bareilly. I then shifted to Mumbai, did a short course from Shari Academy and started working at the age of 20!

Q. How did you make the shift from traditional photography to phone photography?

A. The iPhone 4 changed it all for me. I was travelling to Italy on a commissioned assignment

and was shooting it with a Hasselblad H4D, one of the most expensive camera systems one can buy and despite that, a phone device delivering good photographs blew me away and I ended up shooting more on my phone than the camera.

Q. How do you educate yourself to take better photos?

A. Follow the basics of photography. They are timeliness. Focus on compositions and always keep looking at great artwork, cinematography and photography.

Q. Among your works, which one is your favourite and why?

A. There are so many but these two come to mind right now.

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This takes me back to Argentina and seeing miles and miles of these textures and patterns was just surreal.

[https://www.instagram.com/p/BYoyQcInfPo/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_button\\_share\\_sheet](https://www.instagram.com/p/BYoyQcInfPo/?utm_source=ig_web_button_share_sheet)

This is a great example of capturing moments spontaneously on a phone.



Q. Where do you draw your inspiration from?

A. Good design all around. Looking into details of design in day to day objects. Photography for me is under the design umbrella and apart from getting inspired by photography, product design and illustrations inspire me quite a bit.

Q. What motivates you to keep doing what you're doing?

A. There's so much to see and experience in the world!

Q. If you could take your art in any direction, where would it lead? What new things would you try?

A. I would love to design furniture. I think with printing photographs dying a slow death, having a tangible physical product excites me a lot.

Q. What is your personal approach to photography?

A. I like to keep things simple and not too cluttered.

Q. What is your favourite thing about photography?

A. You can share memories, make people laugh, make people think, make people comfortable or uncomfortable and ultimately tell a story.

Q. Can you tell us something about photography that we may not know?

A. Humans are now taking the most pictures than any given point of time in our history and always remember, the best camera is the one that you have on you.

Q. What's one piece of advice you'd give a budding photographer?

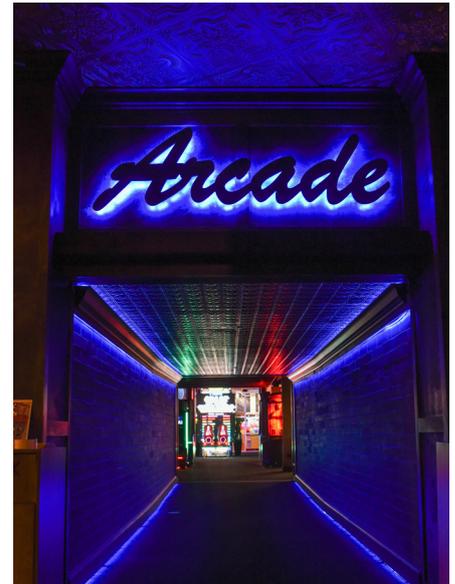
A. Please focus equally on cinematography and not just still photography.

Watch Aneesh Bhasin in conversation with Gul Panag, as he teaches us the basics of phone photography and composition.

If you want to see more photographs Aneesh has taken with his phone, you can check out his Instagram.

# LET'S PLAY

Gaming has become a huge part of pop culture, sprouting its own communities and sub-culture. It is estimated that almost 30% of the world's population partake in some form of gaming, from mobile to casual, to the world of competitive gaming, Hobbyist World takes a look at this fascinating world.



## Console Gaming vs PC Gaming

The debate of console versus pc is the chicken or the egg conundrum of gaming, and you'll find compelling arguments for either side. Although there aren't many differences in the quality of the visuals, variety or even the prices of games, which used to be a true deciding factor, up until sites like Steam came on the scene, with their massive sales, and paved that gap.

However, people that game competitively, do so on PCs, with MOBA games.

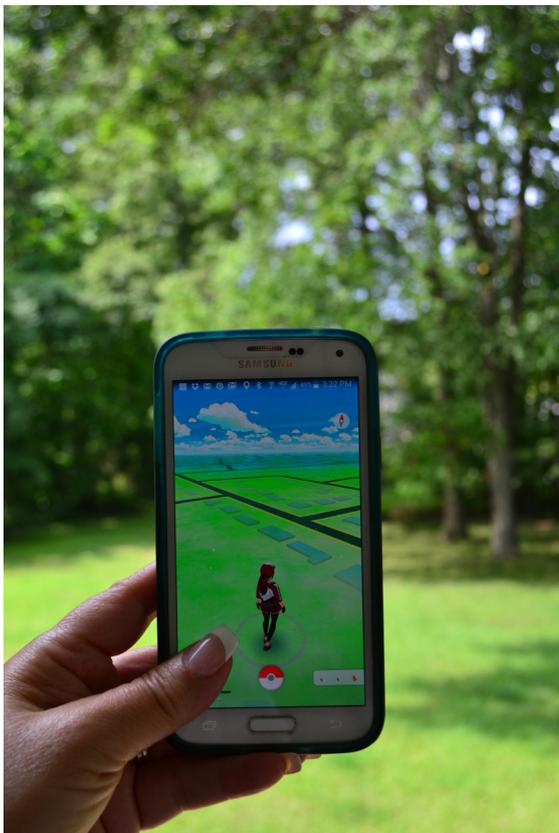


## Mobile gaming

The mobile gaming industry is steadily growing, expected to top \$100 billion by 2021, but mobile gaming isn't really considered "gaming" by the gaming community, as it is a lot more casual and not nearly as time-consuming as PC or console gaming are. But unlike PCs and consoles, we can take our phones anywhere. With the convenience of being in your pocket, it's no surprise that mobile games are fast becoming the largest subgenre of the gaming industry.

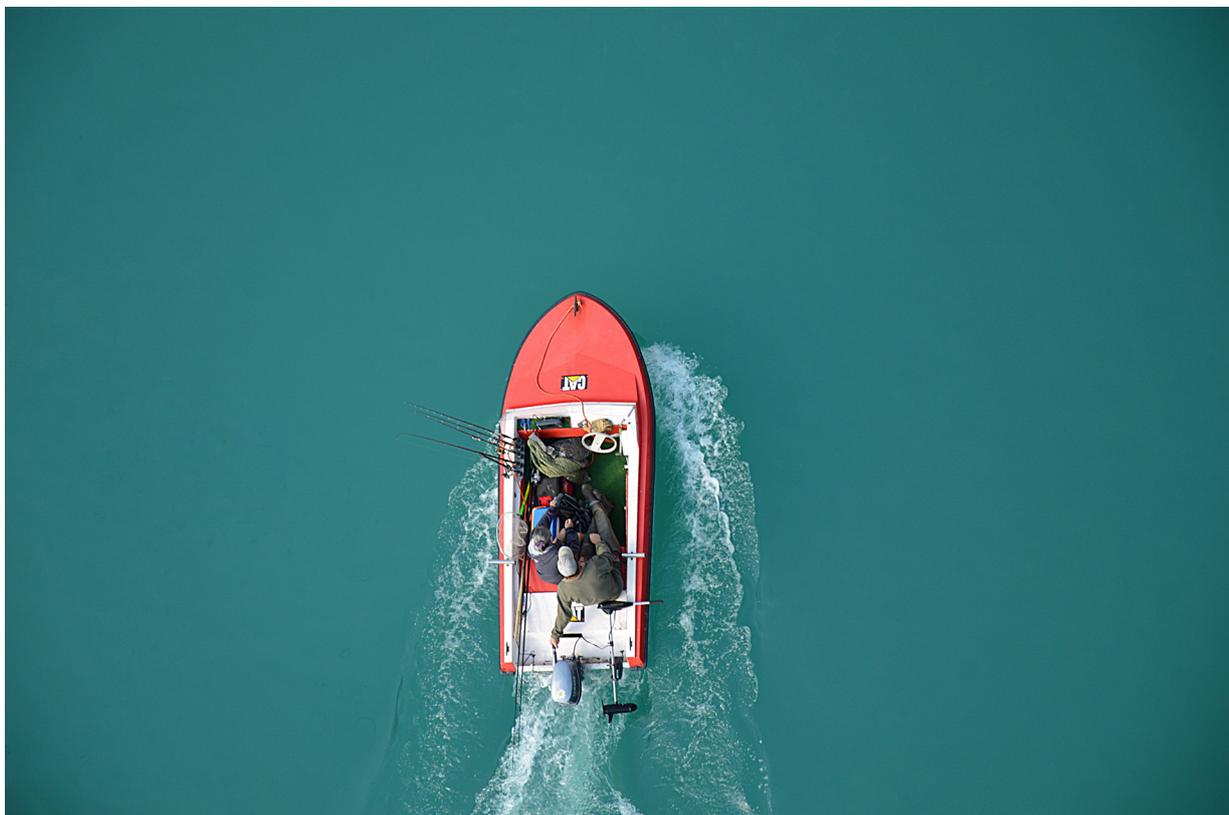
## What the future holds

Virtual reality (VR) and photorealistic graphics. Although virtual reality is not exactly future video game technology, the graphics are typically still very cartoonish and the level of immersion can be clunky. Although photorealistic graphics have been achieved with PC games, and console games commonly feature them, virtual reality has yet to catch up. With future gaming technology, virtual reality headsets will be able to render 3D graphics that are almost indistinguishable from real-life.



## AR

Like virtual reality (VR), augmented reality has been around for a while, but it has yet to be fully utilized in connection with video games. The wild success of Pokémon Go only gave us a hint of the potential that this future video game technology has in store.



## Hook, Line and Sinker

Though probably not as popular a pastime as it is in the West yet, angling slowly, but surely is gaining momentum in India, and also growing a tribe of converts that once thought fishing was not the most exciting. Which other sport offers you hours of tranquillity and reflection, while being in the great outdoors? Hobbyist World takes a dive into the aquatic world of anglers and tells you how best to get started.

### How to get started:

According to experienced anglers, it's important to have an expert accompany novices on their first few fishing trips. As there are regulations of where you can and cannot fish, an expert can help you by giving information that you wouldn't find otherwise. The best places to start out are generally the lakes, river and oceans that are local to you, before treading unknown waters.

### Where to fish:

Different water bodies have different fish. Here's a guide of fresh water fish and where you can find them:

#### Mahseer:

The Mahseer is the most popular fish to catch in the country. It can be caught in Ramganga River, Uttarakhand; Kaveri River, Karnataka ;Beas Ghat, Uttarakhand; Dakpathar, Yamuna; Ranikor, Meghalaya; Giri tributary of the Yamuna; Pancheshwar, Mahakali and Saryu rivers, Uttarakhand; Jia Bhoroli; Teesta, North Sikkim.

#### Trout:

Trouts in all their variants can be caught in Sangla Valley, Himachal Pradesh; Gulmarg, Kashmir; Manali, Himachal Pradesh; Tons & Pabbar tributaries of the Yamuna; Dakpathar, Yamuna; Jia Bhoroli

Ocean fish can be caught in the Andamans and Lakshadweep Islands.

#### Equipment:

You just need the basics: hook, line, sinker. Rods, reels, spears, nets, traps, tackle box, bait/lure (natural or artificial), generally do the trick. However, the specificity of the equipment and tackle depends on the type of fishing and the intended waterbody.

Bait/lure will depend on the water body and type of fishing-lure (artificial bait), live bait, dead bait.

#### Licences and permits:

It is important to understand the need for any adventure sport to be regulated so it can be enjoyed rather than harm the fragile ecosystem, and for that precise reason, fishing permits are mandatory before you start any fishing trip. It is advisable to contact the tourism and fisheries department of the state in which you intend to go fishing or it could be you who gets caught rather than the fish.

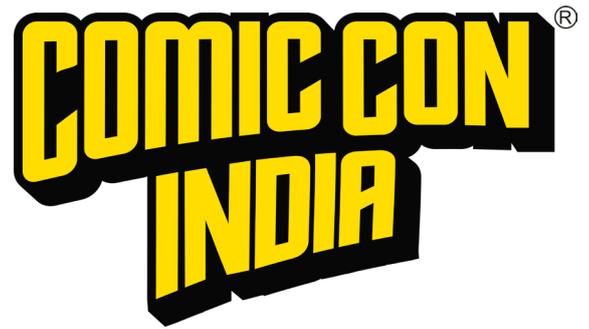
# EVENTFULLY

## YOURS

Are you bored of going to the same events and festivals every year? Or don't know what to do? We at Hobbyist World have compiled a list to help you plan your next vacation.

### Comic Con India

Comic-con India is the place to be if you love pop culture. Starting from October, and spanning all the way into January, Comic Con India is a 2-3 day event that takes place over 4 cities; Mumbai, Delhi, Bangalore and Hyderabad, bringing all things nerdy under one roof.



### Rural Olympics – Kila Raipur, Punjab

Kila Raipur Sports Festival, popularly known as the Rural Olympics, is held annually in Kila Raipur, in Punjab, India. Competitions are held for major Punjabi rural sports, include cart-race, athletic events and rope pulling.

### Hornbill Festival, Nagaland

The Hornbill Festival is held at Naga Heritage Village, Kisama which is about 12 km from Kohima. All the tribes of Nagaland take part in this festival. The aim of the festival is to revive and protect the rich culture of Nagaland and display its extravaganza and traditions.

For visitors, it means a closer understanding of the people and culture of Nagaland, and an opportunity to experience traditional food, songs, dances and culture.



### Oktoberfest- Germany

Oktoberfest is the world's largest Volksfest. Held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany, it is a 16 to 18 day folk festival running from mid or late September to the first weekend in October, with more than six million people from around the world attending the event every year.



## Lathmar Holi – Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh

The Lathmar Holi festivities last for over a week, where the participants dance, sing and immerse themselves in colour alongside the occasional consumption of thandai--a traditional drink synonymous with the festival of Holi. The festival is said to be a recreation of a famous Hindu legend, according to which, Lord Krishna (who hailed from Nandgaon village) visited his beloved Radha's town, Barsana. If legend is to be believed, Krishna teased Radha and her friends, who in turn responded by taking offence at his advances and driving him out of Barsana. Keeping in tune with the legend, the men from Nandgaon visit the town of Barsana every year, only to be greeted by sticks (aka lathi) of the women there. The ladies hurl sticks at the men, who try to shield themselves as much as they can.



## Mim Kut Festival, Mizoram

Mim Kut is celebrated with great fanfare by drinking rice-beer, singing, dancing, and feasting. Samples of the year's harvests are consecrated to the departed souls of the community.

## Pulikali

Pulikali is a recreational folk art from the state of Kerala. It is performed by trained artists to entertain people on the occasion of Onam, an annual harvest festival, celebrated mainly in the Indian state of Kerala.



## Pushkar Camel Fair

Pushkar is famous for its annual fair (Pushkar Camel Fair) featuring a trading fete of cattle, horses and camels. It is held over seven days in autumn marking Kartika Purnima according to the Hindu calendar (Kartik (month), October or November).



## La Tomatina- Spain

La Tomatina is a festival that is held in the Valencian town of Buñol, in the East of Spain 30 kilometres from the Mediterranean, in which participants throw tomatoes and get involved in a tomato fight purely for entertainment purposes.

## Day of the Dead Festival- Mexico

Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is a celebration of life and death. While the holiday originated in Mexico, it is celebrated all over Latin America with colorful calaveras (skulls) and calacas (skeletons). Families welcome back the souls of their deceased relatives for a brief reunion that includes food, drink and celebration. A blend of Mesoamerican ritual, European religion and Spanish culture, the holiday is celebrated each year in November.



## Ziro Festival of Music, Arunachal Pradesh

Located in Lower Subansiri district in the Indian state of Arunachal Pradesh, the picturesque green valley is a perfect place for an independent artists music festival. A festival that together some of the best musical talents of India to a diverse audience hungry for some original cool music. A vibrant mixture of art, music, and culture, Ziro Festival 2019 has now become a “go to” destination for the youngsters and hip enthusiasts who want to get high on music.