# What did people do in their spare time during the 1920's?

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By Georgie and Silke

### Night time entertainment

Many people went to bars simply to celebrate the fact they were alive after World War 1. Because of the prohibited liquor the people could get there (speakeasies), gangs controlled most of the party life in the big cities. While the Youth participated in dances a lot, elderly thought of dancing more as scandalous. Dances like the Fox Trot, the Waltz, and the Tango which were more racy and dance marathons where you could win money became very popular. The most popular dance at that time was jazz because it carried the spirits of a new, prosperous, decade with it. Playing board games, such as Ouija board or Tiddledy Winks, and listening to the radio was a family event. Many people also spent time reading magazines and books too.





Fun Fact: It was actually mainly boys and men who played sport in the 1920's. Women and girls didn't usually play sports because most people thought sweating was very unladylike.

### Sport

Sport was actually a very big thing during the 1920's, but it is often forgotten because of other big events in the time period. Going to sports games became popular when massive sports stadiums were built such as the Yankee Stadium and Madison Square Garden. Sports stars were also having a lot of success (They were idolized as much as movie stars from Hollywood), which lead to sport becoming more and more popular. People would not just go to watch the sport, but they would go to socialise with friends and family. Some sports that were popular at the time include...

- golf
- tennis
- boxing
- football
- basketball
- baseball (being the most popular sport)
- swimming
- horse racing

### Shopping



Because the average wage was rising so much, appliances were much more affordable, so many people would spend lots of time buying new products. Some of these appliances available during the 1920's were...

- radios
- records
- cars
- washing machines
- vacuum cleaners
- food makers
- sewing machines
- electric fridges
- electric light bulbs(instead of candles)



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### **Movie theatres**

Movies were very new to people during the 1920's, and in 1923, people could watch movies with sound, so it was a very popular thing to do. It let them experience different types of lifestyles from their seat. Most people went there at least once a week and it was where the rich and poor met. Movie stars like Rudolph Valentino, Charlie Chaplin, and Mickey Mouse, were all in the 1920's. It was also the beginning of Warner Brothers, 20th Century Fox etc.



## Thanks :)

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