

Covid-19 has been a trying time for most people. In addition to living in fear of getting sick, or having a loved one get sick, there has also been a decrease in what we can do. For example, restaurants and other public venues closed. This left many people sitting at home. During this time, I decided to find hobbies for myself that would not only distract me from what was happening in the world, but would also give me new skills. My hope was that these hobbies would occupy my mind and teach me something valuable. In the course of a year, I developed three new hobbies.

My first hobby was learning how to fly drones. I started with a cheap and little drone and, eventually, worked my way up to a more expensive and larger drone. It took a while for me to get comfortable with operating the remote control. Additionally, I had to work past the fear of crashing the drone. However, as the months went on, I got more and more comfortable. Now I can fly the drone both inside and outside. Drones have many purposes other than just being fun. For example, you can take cool aerial photographs, use them for surveillance, and, maybe one day, use them to deliver goods to people.

My second hobby was learning how to play chess. Chess is a great way to exercise the mind. The most important part of chess is understanding how the pieces move and creating a strategy for the game. At first, I played with my sister since she was the one who taught me. Then, I downloaded an app and started playing with people all around the world. The app allowed me to not only play with these diverse players, but also allowed me to chat with them and ask them how their country was dealing with Covid-19.

My third, and last hobby, was getting involved in the Social Club at college and launching a photography project. This project involved taking creative photos from your hometown and submitting them to the college. The college would then pick a winner. This project allowed for me to grow my social skills and organizational skills, as well as gave everyone an opportunity to go outside and appreciate the beautiful views that we have in our very own hometown. With the pandemic resulting in public places being closed, this gave people a reason to get out of their houses and to do some walking and sight-seeing.

Although Covid-19 was, and still is, a very sad and trying time for most people, it gave me the opportunity to develop new hobbies. I plan on doing practical and useful things with these hobbies. From flying drones, to playing chess, to creating a photography project, I have used this time to further myself and my skills. I encourage everyone to do the same!