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Manscaping

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To see ISU students opinions on manscaping see page 22.

“The 40-Year-Old Virgin” may have dramatized the darker side of manscaping, but the reality is that modern men have taken to personal grooming more than ever before. Whether by personal choice or outside suggestion, men are taking initiative and taming their curly q’s, clipping their back whiskers and sometimes ripping off the hot wax more than ever before.

So what about society has changed so that the au naturel look isn’t good enough?

The answer to this question is that masculinity itself has changed to entail less hair and more care. The modern man can’t get away with leaving his natural shag as is. This comes off as lazy in the eyes of others. The availability of electric clippers has lowered the amount of time such pruning requires, while consequently raising ladies’ expectations.

Some parts of the male anatomy require more attention than others. While men are traditionally accepted to have hairy arms and legs, hairy backs are an unspoken phenomenon that will never receive public approval. When it comes to torsos and below the belt, most ladies agree that trims are ideal and smooth is acceptable, but the untamed look doesn’t catch the eyes of many.

When it comes to body hair removal, men typically turn to trimming, shaving and the most-feared method of waxing. Do-it-yourself trimming and shaving are the most common solutions for guys when it comes to their chests and nether regions. Few men are willing to put such chores into someone else’s hands.

Sou Vithayasab, aesthetician at Studio7 Salon, has seen men put their pride aside and admit their furry problems, in search of a cleaner, sharper look. “The back is the most common place that guys tend to wax,” she explains. “As far as down there … there are very few guys who actually wax.”

Vithayasab says that while waxing does entail a pain factor, the more often you wax, the less pain is experienced. Despite the pain, waxing is beneficial in that it removes hair from the follicle, causing hair to grow back slower than shaving.

While methods of hair removal vary and people’s preferences differ, hair removal has become integrated into the modern man’s lifestyle. So guys, when considering this, remember the phrase, “beauty is in the eye of the beholder.” Don’t be afraid to ask a significant other’s opinion. If a common ground can be reached it will work in your favor in more ways than one.

Quickies

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Manscaping

By MATT WETTENEL

David will forever keep it natural, but the standards for men have changed since Michelangelo sculpted him in the early 1500s. Here and now, women at Iowa State favor a trim or shave over tangles of untamedness. Tools of the craft have advanced with shifts in attitudes to make the now-common practice accessible and easy for all to do.

“Trim Styles” Ideas on what to do down there, and some looks for those with a little more hair.

Au Naturel

The Perimeter

The Flash

Optical Illusion

The Low-Rise

Love Me Long Time

The Bat Shit

Austin Powers

The Bikini

The Probably Not Going to Get Laid Tonight

Brazilian