

Five Fresh Anime Your Teens Will Love

These series all have episodes released in 2016

Mob Psycho 100

Mob might be the most powerful psychic in the world. He's not all that interested in his powers, but everyone around him wants psychic abilities of their own. With the help of his protective brother and charlatan mentor, Mob just might find a purpose for his gifts. (Great for fans of recent hit One Punch Man, which is from the same creator).

Your Lie In April

A struggling pianist recovering from an abusive childhood befriends an passionately talented violinist with a lust for life. Will they make beautiful music together or grow apart? (Note: This series has a YouTube channel that shares classical music pieces used in the manga & anime)

Haikyū

Shoyo Hinata built a volleyball team just in time to participate in his last middle school tournament and lost to an elite team. Now he joins a high school team with his former rival. (Currently in its third season)

Yuri On Ice!!

After choking in a major ice skating championship, Yuri trains to return to greatness. A private practice session goes viral online, thrusting Yuri into the public spotlight as well as his rivals' crosshairs. (Features lifelike animation via rotoscoping during skating scenes)

Kiznaiver

A group of classmates are selected for the experimental Kiznaiver program, which will enable them to feel each other's pain, whether emotional or physical. As a team of "kiznaivers," they take on dramatic assignments designed to test their responses. ("Kiznaiver" comes from the Japanese for "scar" and "bond")

Look for these series as streaming episodes on CrunchyRoll as well as DVD/Blu-Ray box sets.

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Anime/Manga Genre Terms

Shonen

The genre of competition and adventure, there is no skill-based tournament that has not been played in shonen "boy comics" manga. Characters focus their chi energy to shoot fireballs and save the Earth in **Dragon Ball Z**, dissect board game strategy and budding rivalries in **Hikaru no Go**, and pilot massive robotic armors into planetary war in **Mobile Suit Gundam**. Teamwork and hidden strengths often play a large component in these action-driven stories.

Shojo

Shojo is shorthand for "girl comics," and one of the biggest shojo series ever is **Sailor Moon**, about a group of teenage girls who fight evil with their planet-themed magic powers. The premise resembles a superhero team-up series, but the series' themes revolve around friendship, loyalty, and being true to oneself. Another long-running and popular shojo series, **Skip Beat**, focuses on a girl who aspires to succeed in show business as an act of revenge against her celebrity ex-boyfriend. A more recent and concise shojo, **Strobe Edge**, follows the inner thoughts of two teens figuring out their feelings for one another and how to let the other know.

Seinen

This may be the most difficult category to pin down, as the intended demographic is "men age 18-40" but the subject matter is all over the place. Action manga that are more violent than shonen series often count as seinen, but series about raising children are also popular with adults. This wide subject range is why a violent sci-fi series like **Akira** is listed next to the wine-tasting guide **Drops of God** and slice-of-life **Yotsuba&!**, which stars a rambunctious five-year-old girl named Yotsuba.

Josei

Manga for adult women tend to be an extension of the romances and dramas found in many shojo series, but written at a higher maturity level. Josei is responsible for the rise of stories depicting homosexual relationships in Japan, including the classic boys-school drama **Heart of Thomas**. Relationships take on a meaning more involved than blushing and hand-holding, as in **Paradise Kiss**. Also, just as YA novels have been adapted into manga form, adult novels have begun making the transition, including Gail Carriger's historical/paranormal **Soulless** series.

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