

## 45557 - Is Shaving Chest Hair Prohibited?

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### the question

What is the ruling on shaving a man's chest?

### Summary of answer

With regard to shaving body hair in the case of a man, it is permissible according to the Malikis, and it was said that it is Sunnah. What is meant by the body is everything except the head.

### Detailed answer

Hair is of three types:

- That which Shari`ah forbids us from removing any of it.
- That which Shari`ah commands us to remove.
- That concerning which Shari`ah says nothing; it does not tell us to remove it or forbids us to do so.

That which Shari`ah commands us to leave alone is the [beard](#) and [eyebrows](#) , from which nothing should be removed.

That which we are commanded to remove is armpit hair and [pubic hair](#) , and the [moustache](#) in the case of men.

That concerning which Shari`ah says nothing is forgivable (and is a matter of personal choice), because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "What is permitted is that which Allah has permitted in His Book, and what is forbidden is that which Allah has forbidden in His Book, and what He has remained silent about is forgivable."  
(Narrated by At-Tirmidhi, 1726; classed as good by Al-Albani in Sahih At-Tirmidhi")

That includes hair in the nose, on the chest, and on the legs and arms.

It says in Al-Mawsu`ah Al-Fiqhiyyah (18/100):

“With regard to shaving body hair in the case of a man, it is permissible according to the Malikis, and it was said that it is Sunnah. What is meant by the body is everything except the head.

With regard to shaving the head, we have discussed the ruling on that in detail in the answer to question no. [14051](#) .

And Allah knows best.