


# Autism Spectrum Quotient: Children's Version (AQ-Child)

The AQ-Child is a screening questionnaire completed by a parent or caregiver to estimate the intensity of autistic traits in children aged 4 to 11. It comprises 50 items exploring social skills, attention switching, attention to detail, communication and imagination. This tool is mainly useful for clinical screening, referral for specialized assessment and research, particularly when the aim is to objectively document behaviors consistent with autism spectrum disorder. It helps structure parental observation but does not replace a full clinical diagnosis.

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| Number of questions | 50 questions |
| Estimated duration | 20 minutes |
| Language | English |
| Original name | The Autism Spectrum Quotient: Children's Version |
| Target audience | Children aged 4-11 |
| Authors | Bonnie Auyeung, Simon Baron-Cohen, Sally Wheelwright, Carrie Allison (2008) |
| Category | Autism spectrum, Childhood |

## Preview of the 50 questions

About your child or the person who is under your care:

**S/he prefers to do things with others rather than on her/his own.**

Definitely Agree | Slightly Agree | Slightly Disagree | Definitely Disagree

About your child or the person who is under your care:

**S/he prefers to do things the same way over and over again.**

Definitely Agree | Slightly Agree | Slightly Disagree | Definitely Disagree

About your child or the person who is under your care:

**If s/he tries to imagine something, s/he finds it very easy to create a picture in her/his mind.**

Definitely Agree | Slightly Agree | Slightly Disagree | Definitely Disagree

About your child or the person who is under your care:

S/he frequently gets so strongly absorbed in one thing that s/he loses sight of other things.

Definitely Agree | Slightly Agree | Slightly Disagree | Definitely Disagree

About your child or the person who is under your care:

S/he often notices small sounds when others do not.

Definitely Agree | Slightly Agree | Slightly Disagree | Definitely Disagree

### Administer your questionnaires online

Send your patient a link: they answer from their phone or computer, and you receive the scored results by email.

View the questionnaire on mentaal.org ›

## Scoring & interpretation

Each item is scored on a 4-point scale from 0 to 3, with reverse scoring for items worded in the non-autistic direction according to the official key. The total score is the sum of the 50 items and ranges from 0 to 150. A higher score indicates more marked autistic traits as reported by the parent. The cutoff of 76 proposed in the original study suggests a level of risk that warrants a specialized diagnostic assessment. The tool should be interpreted as a screening instrument and not as diagnostic proof.


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Laura V. - Online Psychologist