

Reactive – Proactive Aggression Questionnaire (RPQ)

Rate each of the items below by putting a circle around either **0 (never)**, **1 (sometimes)**, or **2 (often)**. Don't spend a lot of time thinking about the items – just give your first response.

How often have you ...

1. Yelled at others when they have annoyed you	0	1	2
2. Had fights with others to show who was on top	0	1	2
3. Reacted angrily when provoked by others	0	1	2
4. Taken things from others	0	1	2
5. Become angry when frustrated	0	1	2
6. Damaged or broken something for fun	0	1	2
7. Had temper tantrums	0	1	2
8. Damaged or broke things because you felt mad	0	1	2
9. Got into a fight to impress people	0	1	2
10. Hurt others to win a game	0	1	2
11. Become angry or mad when you don't get your way	0	1	2
12. Used physical force to get others to do what you want	0	1	2
13. Become angry or mad when you lost a game or argument	0	1	2
14. Become angry when others threatened you	0	1	2
15. Used force to obtain money or things from others	0	1	2
16. Felt better after hitting or yelling at someone	0	1	2
17. Threatened or bullied someone	0	1	2
18. Sent offensive email/texts/posts/phone calls for fun	0	1	2
19. Hit others to defend yourself	0	1	2
20. Got others to gang up on someone else	0	1	2
21. Carried a weapon to use in a fight	0	1	2
22. Become angry or mad or hit others when teased	0	1	2
23. Yelled at others so they would do things for you	0	1	2

Follow the steps below to calculate the result:

1. For items 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 22 write out the sum of the answers (**reactive aggression score**):

2. For items 2, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23 write out the sum of the answers (**proactive aggression score**):

Additional information (e.g., data on individuals taking and/or administering the test):

Result*	Low level	Medium level	High level
Reactive aggression	0 – 11	12 – 14	15 – 22
Proactive aggression	0 – 3	4 – 9	10 – 24

Based on [our own](#) Latent Profile Analysis (LPA) using data from Dinić, B. M., & Raine, A. (2019). An Item Response Theory Analysis and Further Validation of the Reactive–Proactive Aggression Questionnaire (RPQ): The Serbian Adaptation of the RPQ. With the chosen division, approximately 83% of the individuals from the study samples for both forms of aggression correspond to a low level, 13% to a medium level, and 4% to a high level.

Reactive-Proactive Aggression Scale (RPQ) is a self-report measure of two main forms of aggression. Consisting of 23 items, it takes 2-3 minutes to complete. It can be used with children, adolescents, and adults. This test was developed by Raine, A., Dodge, K., Loeber, R., Gatzke-Kopp, L., Lynam, D., Reynolds, C., Stouthamer-Loeber, M., and Liu, J.

Reactive aggression is an impulsive response to a perceived threat or provocation, associated with high emotional arousal, anxiety, and anger. It arises as a reaction of the subject to a certain stimulus (including a threat stimulus that can lead to self-defense) or as a result of frustration. It is limited to a specific conflict, has no intent, and no purpose other than the direct infliction of harm. **Proactive aggression** is instrumental, organized, cold-blooded, and motivated by the anticipation of reward. It consists in achieving a certain positive result by resorting to aggressive actions; it is a planned and motivated act of harming the victim.

* This test can only be used to make a preliminary assessment of an individual's level of aggression, it is not intended to make any definitive diagnosis and should not be taken seriously. Any suspicion of predisposition to aggressive behaviors should be followed up with more detailed testing and assistance from an appropriate specialist (a psychologist or psychiatrist).

This test is presented as part of the **Antiviolence.io** project, aimed at informing and fighting the problem of violence in society. All details and references to research on psychopathy can be found on the project website.

Information Note!

Based on the **Violence Inhibition Mechanism** theory, the average and healthy individual has a strong inner resistance to harming others. This mechanism plays an important role in the development of moral emotions such as empathy and guilt. And the result of its dysfunction is the emergence of psychopathic traits, especially those related to primary psychopathy.

As statistical data demonstrate, the majority of the population is characterized by low levels or complete absence of psychopathic traits and corresponding behaviors. At the same time, people who commit premeditated acts of violence, and especially murders, typically have high psychopathic predispositions.

The ability to commit deliberate, planned, and purposeful acts of violence without inner resistance is a disorder that requires therapeutic intervention.