

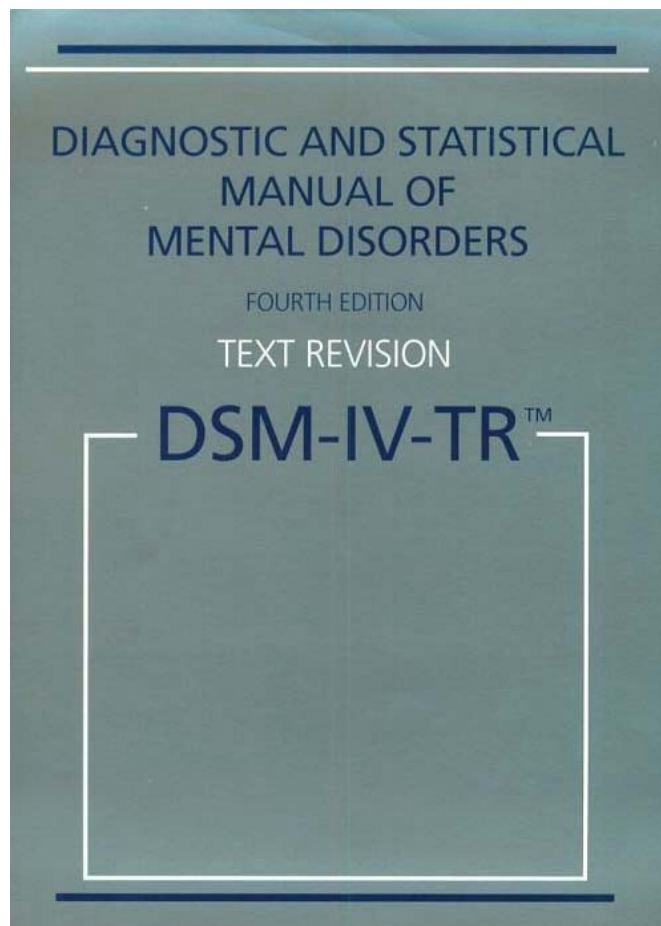
# ADHD Family Online

*Bringing Your Family Into Focus*



## Diagnostic Criteria For Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

**\*\*Referenced From The DSM-IV-TR\*\***



**Prepared Exclusively For Members Of:**  
ADHDFamilyOnline.com

## Diagnostic Criteria For ADHD – DSM-IV-TR

**Note:** The following diagnostic criteria have been cited from *Diagnostic And Statistical Manual Of Mental Disorders, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Text Revision*.

American Psychiatric Association. (2000). *Diagnostic And Statistical Manual Of Mental Disorders* (Revised 4<sup>th</sup> ed.). Washington, DC: Author

### Disclaimers:

1. The information contained herein and in any and all future correspondences are for **educational & informational** purposes only. This information is the specific opinion of Rory Stern, PsyD, and should only be considered as additional information when thinking about how you want to approach your child's struggles with ADHD.
2. Any and all medical decisions **must continue to be made** with your own or your child's treating physician, psychiatrist, therapist, or other licensed medical professional.
3. In this capacity, Rory Stern, PsyD is not able to, nor does he suggest or make specific, individual recommendations. As a reader and subscriber, you must make your decisions your own and be as informed as possible.

**A. Either (1) or (2):**

**(1) Six (or more) of the following symptoms of inattention have persisted for at least 6 months to a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:**

**Inattention:**

- (a) often fails to give close attention to details or makes careless mistakes in schoolwork, work, or other activities**
- (b) often has difficulty sustaining attention in tasks or play activities**
- (c) often does not seem to listen when spoken to directly**
- (d) often does not follow through on instructions and fails to finish schoolwork, chores, or duties in the workplace (not due to oppositional behavior or failure to understand instructions)**
- (e) often has difficulty organizing tasks and activities**
- (f) often avoids, dislikes, or is reluctant to engage in tasks that require sustained mental effort (such as schoolwork or homework)**
- (g) often loses things necessary for tasks or activities (e.g., toys, school assignments, pencils, books, or tools)**
- (h) is often easily distracted by extraneous stimuli**
- (i) is often forgetful in daily activities**

**(2) six (or more) of the following symptoms of hyperactivity-impulsivity have been persistent for at least 6 months to a degree that is maladaptive and inconsistent with developmental level:**

**Hyperactivity:**

- (a) often fidgets with hands or feet or squirms in seat**
- (b) often leaves seat in classroom or other situations in which remaining seated is expected**
- (c) often runs about or climbs excessively in situations it is inappropriate (in adolescents or adults, may be limited to subjective feelings of restlessness)**

- (d) often has difficulty playing or engaging in leisure activities quietly
- (e) is often “on the go” or often acts as if “driven by a motor”
- (f) often talks excessively

**Impulsivity:**

- (g) often blurts out answers before questions have been completed
- (h) often has difficulty awaiting turn
- (i) often interrupts or intrudes on others (e.g., butts into conversations or games)

**B. Some hyperactive-impulsive or inattentive symptoms that caused impairments were present before age 7 years.**

**C. Some impairment from the symptoms is present in two or more settings (e.g., at school [or work] and at home).**

**D. There must be clear evidence of clinical significant impairment in social, academic, or occupational functioning.**

**E. The symptoms do not occur exclusively during the course of a Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Schizophrenia, or other Psychotic Disorder and are not better accounted for by another mental disorder (e.g., Mood Disorder, Anxiety Disorder, Dissociative Disorder, or a Personality Disorder).**

***Code Based On Type:***

**314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Combined Type:**  
if both Criteria A1 and A2 are met for the past 6 months

**314.00 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Inattentive Type:**  
if Criterion A1 is met but Criterion A2 is not met for the past 6 months

**314.01 Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, Predominantly Inattentive Type:**  
if Criterion A2 is met but Criterion A1 is not met for the past 6 months