

Ages At Which Children Are Legally Entitled To Carry Out Certain Acts

Austria		
Acts	Age	Observations
1. Majority a. civil majority b. penal majority c. penal minority	19 19 14	Unless the court extends minority to the age of 21 A child who is married comes of age at 18
2. Emancipation	18	
3. Marriage a. without consent of appropriate authority b. with parental consent c. with consent of the appropriate authority	16 female 19 male 15 female 18 male	<u>Every</u> minor needs parental consent, though this may be replaced by that of the court. The courts lower the age, but parental consent, which may be replaced by that of the court, is necessary
4. Work a. full time b. part-time c. apprenticeship	14 at the earliest	In principle, upon completion of compulsory education - or, in the case of a child not subject to compulsory education requirement, as from 6/15 of the year in which the child reaches age 15 Apart from apprenticeship, a child may enter into employment contract beginning age 14. Apart from apprenticeship, a child may enter into an employment contract from the age of 14
5. Residence		Parents may decide on residence only where necessary for the child's guardianship and education; from age 14 on, the child may apply to court.
6. Contracts a. without parental consent b. with parental consent	19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From age 14 child may decide transactions concerning property placed at child's disposal, provided it does not endanger basic needs of child. Transactions of minor importance become valid ("pocket money transactions") From the age of 7: a child may accept a promise which is solely to his/her benefit.
7. Will	18	From age 14, child may make verbal will before court or solicitor.
8. Purchase of certain products a. alcohol b. tobacco		
9. Religion (refuse or change)	14	Child must be consulted beginning at age 10 and there can be no change in denomination from age 12 on, without child's consent.
10. Adoption (refuse to agree to adoption)		From age of 5, child must be consulted unless already living with adoptive parents.
11. Name (refuse to change name)	14	Change of name due to legitimization needs child's consent and in event of change of parent's name.
12. Nationality		From age of 14, child's consent is required in application for or change in nationality.
13. Medical matters (refuse to allow doctor to inform parents)		
14. Recognition of a child		A man may recognize his illegitimate child with consent of statutory guardian.
15. Personal matters (give his opinion)		In principle, the child must be consulted by the court itself. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to age 10, the child may be consulted through the child welfare services or other appropriate means. No consultation if this would endanger the child's welfare or

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		if no opinion can be expected. (age, development stage)
16. Legal proceedings		
a. take part in court decision	19	With partial legal authority beginning at age 14, child has right to take part in court proceedings in this context and is a party in matters of marriage, guardianship, and temporary guardianship relating to the child ..
b. request court appointment of legal representative other than parents	19	In the context of partial legal capacity.
c. inform court of self-concerning matters		No limits.
17. Army		
a. enlist in armed forces	17	Voluntary military service only.
b. active national service		
18. Savings accounts		
a. deposits		
b. withdrawals		
19. Passport	14	Application for the issue of a passport with the consent of the statutory guardian.
20. Participation in the functioning of the school system		

Source: Council of Europe (1998). *Ages at which children are legally entitled to carry out a series of acts in Council of Europe member countries*. Strasbourg: Council of Europe.