

# AGE OF CONSENT

## UNDER 12

It's against the law for anyone to have sexual contact with you, even if you agree to it.

## AGE 12

You can consent to sexual activity with someone who's less than two years older than you.

## AGE 13

You can consent to sexual activity with someone who's less than two years older than you.

## AGE 14

You can consent to sexual activity with someone who's less than five years older than you.

## AGE 15

You can consent to sexual activity with someone who's less than five years older than you.

## AGE 16

You've reached the age of consent. This means that you can give consent to sexual activity even if the other person is much older than you. There's no restriction on how much older they can be.

## UNDER AGE 18

It's against the law for anyone in a **position of trust or power** over you to have sexual contact with you, even if you say you agree. People in positions of power over you are people you would normally depend on or trust. Some examples are a teacher, coach, family member, or doctor.

THE AGE OF CONSENT IN CANADA IS

16

There are 3 exceptions:

12-13

You can consent with someone **less than 2 years older** than you.

14-15

You can consent with someone **less than 5 years older** than you.

under 18

It's **not legal** for someone over 18 to have sexual contact with someone under 18 where there's a **relationship of authority, trust, or dependency**.

Exact ages are important because the law measures the differences in age from birthday to birthday. For example, if your 13th birthday is today, you're too young to consent to sexual activity with someone who turned 15 last week.

		Other person's age									
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Your age	12	✓	✓	▲	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
	13	✓	✓	✓	▲	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
	14	▲	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	▲	✗	✗
	15	✗	▲	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	▲	✗
	16	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

✓ You can give consent    ✗ No legal consent possible

▲ Depends on your birthdays

