

Age Definitions

Ref: *Sefer Nashim, Hilchot Ishut, Chapter 2*

GIRL		
<i>Tinoket / Ketanah</i> (minor)		child under 12
<i>Gedolah</i>	<i>Naarah</i> (maiden)	2 pubic hairs after 12, for 6 months*
	<i>Bogeret</i> (mature woman)	After 12½ *
<i>Aylonit</i> (barren) (12–20)		12–20 and no pubic hair – status is <i>ketanah</i> (even if all other signs of barrenness are manifest) If she does get 2 hairs, she will then have status of <i>naarah</i> for 6 months and thereafter <i>bogeret</i> .
<i>Aylonit</i> (up to 35)		If not all signs of barrenness, still called <i>ketanah</i>
<i>Aylonit</i> (after 35)		If pubic hair still missing, even if all signs of barrenness absent.
BOY		
<i>Tinok/Katan</i>		0–13
<i>Gadol</i>		At least 13 years old and has at least 2 pubic hairs
13–20 less 30 days, and no pubic hairs have grown		Even if signs of impotency present he is still considered a <i>katan</i>
<i>Saris</i> (20 years less 30 days up to 35)		No hairs but some signs of impotency, then considered a <i>gadol</i> . If no signs of impotency then still considered a <i>katan</i> .
<i>Saris</i> (after 35) – and still no pubic hairs have grown		Even if no signs of impotency, considered a <i>saris</i> – impotent.
<i>Sris chamah</i>		Impotent from birth
<i>Sris adam</i>		Testicles damaged after birth. After 13 he is termed a <i>gadol</i> (adult)
<i>Yoledet</i>		A girl over 12 who gives birth is called <i>gedolah</i> even if 2 hairs not present
BOTH		
<i>Androgynous</i>		Both male and female sex organs. When reaches age of 12, considered an adult

<i>Tumtum</i>		“Closed”. Neither male nor female sex organs visible. When reaches age of 12, considered an adult
OTHER DEFINITIONS		
<i>Cheresh</i>		Male deaf-mute
<i>Chereshet</i>		Female deaf-mute
<i>Pikeach</i>		Intellectually competent, neither deaf or mute, emotionally stable, male
<i>Pikachat</i>		Intellectually competent, neither deaf or mute, emotionally stable, female
<i>Shoteh</i>		Intellectually handicapped i.e. opposite of <i>pikach</i>

* *Naarah* and *bogeret* stage only reached when pubic hairs present. If not, then remains *ketanah* up to age 20 or 35.

WOMAN

4 signs of barrenness

8 signs of physical maturity in a woman

MAN

9 signs of impotency

Signs of impotency

- Lacks beard
- Hair on head sparse
- No hair on flesh
- Urine has no smell
- Urine does not flow in arc
- Semen off colour
- Urine does not ferment
- When washing in winter flesh does not produce steam
- Voice high pitched