

DigComp 2.3 AT – Guide to understanding the levels

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How can you tell what level of competence participants have reached after attending an educational offer?

With regard to the formal education system in Austria, competence level 1 could be compared in a very simplified way, for example with learning outcomes at primary school level, and competence level 8 with a university professorship or a highly qualified research and innovation activity. In the concept of levels, the degree of independence (level 1–4) or the competence to manage work and learning contexts and their complexity and degree of contingency (level 5–8) are decisive.

On the individual levels participants acquire the following skills:

- **Level 1: Support & Repetition - Elementary FOUNDATION**

... have basic knowledge and can carry out simple recurring tasks under given conditions and with direct guidance.

- **Level 2: Repetition & Routine - Solid FOUNDATION**

... have solid basic knowledge and are able to carry out simple routine work independently under given conditions and with appropriate guidance where necessary.

¹ Taken from: Nárosy, T., Schmölz, A., Proinger, J., & Domany-Funtan, U. . (2022). Digital competency model for Austria: DigComp 2.3 AT (2022). Media Impulses, 60(4), 103 pages. <https://doi.org/10.21243/mi-04-22-23>

Nárosy, T., Schmölz, A., Proinger, J., & Domany-Funtan, U. . (2022). Digital competency model for Austria: DigComp 2.3 AT (2022). Appendix 1: NQF Level Orientation for Assignment to DigComp AT Competence Levels, Media Impulses, 60(4) <https://journals.univie.ac.at/index.php/mp/article/view/7725/7782>

- **Level 3: Routine & Independence - Solid INTERMEDIATE**

... have basic knowledge and understanding and are able to carry out simple tasks and challenges independently and responsibly by applying basic methods, tools, materials and information while maintaining the same framework conditions. Furthermore, in common routine situations, they can independently adapt their behavior to the respective circumstances.

- **Level 4: Independence & Teamwork - Upper INTERMEDIATE**

... have in-depth knowledge and understanding and are able to carry out routine work independently and on their own responsibility, find solutions to common tasks and challenges, and use industry/specialist instruments, procedures and methods on their own responsibility, in accordance with standards and in accordance with the situation. Furthermore, they can supervise and evaluate other people's routine work.

- **Level 5: Development, Guidance & Leadership - Comprehensively ADVANCED**

... have comprehensive, advanced knowledge and can find creative solutions to abstract problems even in unpredictable situations, as well as design, manage and supervise projects independently. Furthermore, they can review and develop their own performance as well as that of other people.

- **Level 6: Domain Overview, Management & Ultimate Responsibility - In-depth ADVANCED**

... have in-depth, advanced knowledge and are able to grasp the area of learning/work from different perspectives using a critical understanding of theories and principles. They will be able to develop new innovative solutions to complex problems in changing, unpredictable contexts, as well as manage complex technical or professional activities or projects. Furthermore, they can take on decision-making responsibility as well as the management and development of employees.

- **Level 7: Ultimate Leadership, Complexity & Strategy - Strategically HIGHLY SPECIALISED**

... have highly specialised knowledge based on the latest findings and about critical awareness of knowledge issues in the respective field, also at the interface with other areas. You will be able to manage and strategize complex, unpredictable work or learning contexts. They can lead and strategically design complex, unpredictable work or learning situations. They can also take responsibility for contributions to expertise and professional practice, as well as review the strategic performance of teams.

- **Level 8: Professional Authority, Research, Innovation & Development - Innovatively HIGHLY SPECIALISED**

... have cutting-edge knowledge in the fields as well as extensive knowledge from other disciplines at the interfaces to other areas. They are able to solve central questions through the creative and reflective use of advanced and specialized skills and methods, or to redefine existing knowledge or professional practice. Furthermore, they can lead and strategically develop complex projects, operational units or companies. They can also develop new ideas or processes in leading work or learning settings, including research, make new knowledge accessible and thus contribute to the further development of learners or employees.

Abbreviations

DigComp	Digital Competence (Framework)
AT	Austria

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