

PCL-R Checklist

Client name: _____ Date: _____ dd / mm / yyyy

Evaluator: _____ File review completed: _____

Instructions: Rate all 20 items from a semi-structured interview and collateral file review. Score each item 0 = does not apply, 1 = applies somewhat, 2 = definitely applies. Item numbers follow Hare's PCL-R (2nd edition, 2003). Items 11 and 17 do not load on either factor, but they still count toward the total score of 0–40.

FACTOR 1: INTERPERSONAL / AFFECTIVE

8 items, maximum 16 points

FACET 1 — INTERPERSONAL

1. **Glibness / superficial charm:** Does the individual use charm, flattery, or smooth talk to gain trust or manipulate others?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

2. **Grandiose sense of self-worth:** Does the individual have an inflated sense of self-importance and believe they are superior to others?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

4. **Pathological lying:** Does the individual lie frequently and convincingly, often without remorse?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

5. **Conning / manipulative:** Does the individual exploit others for personal gain through deception or manipulation?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

FACET 2 — AFFECTIVE

6. **Lack of remorse or guilt:** Does the individual lack remorse for their actions and show no guilt, even when harming others?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

7. **Shallow affect:** Does the individual show a limited range of emotions or a lack of emotional depth?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

8. **Callous / lack of empathy:** Does the individual lack empathy or concern for the feelings of others?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

16. **Failure to accept responsibility for own actions:** Does the individual blame others or minimize their own role in the harm they cause?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

FACTOR 2: LIFESTYLE / ANTISOCIAL

10 items, maximum 20 points

FACET 3 — LIFESTYLE

3. **Need for stimulation / proneness to boredom:** Does the individual crave excitement and easily get bored with routine activities?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

9. **Parasitic lifestyle:** Does the individual rely on others for financial support rather than meeting their own needs?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

13. **Lack of realistic long-term goals:** Does the individual lack clear goals or aspirations for the future?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

14. **Impulsivity:** Does the individual act impulsively without considering the consequences?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

15. **Irresponsibility:** Does the individual fail to meet their obligations or commitments?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

FACET 4 — ANTISOCIAL

10. **Poor behavioral controls:** Does the individual show a short temper, verbal abuse, or sudden aggressive outbursts?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

12. **Early behavior problems:** Did the individual show conduct problems or aggression before the age of 13?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

18. **Juvenile delinquency:** Has the individual engaged in criminal behavior between the ages of 13 and 18?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

19. **Revocation of conditional release:** Has the individual had parole, probation, or another conditional release revoked?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

20. **Criminal versatility:** Has the individual committed offenses across several different crime categories?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

ADDITIONAL ITEMS: NOT LOADED ON EITHER FACTOR

2 items, maximum 4 points

11. **Promiscuous sexual behavior:** Does the individual have a history of casual and short-term sexual relationships?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

17. **Many short-term marital relationships:** Has the individual had multiple short-term marriages or cohabiting relationships?

☐ 0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2

Subscale	Items	Maximum	Score
Factor 1 (Facets 1 + 2)	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 16	16	_____
Factor 2 (Facets 3 + 4)	3, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20	20	_____
Non-loading items	11, 17	4	_____
Total PCL-R score	All 20 items	40	_____

Total score	Interpretation	Clinical meaning
0–10	Low	Few psychopathic traits; typical prosocial personality.
11–20	Below average	Some traits present, but not clinically significant.
21–29	Moderate	Elevated traits; monitor risk and document your reasoning.
30–40	High	Meets the traditional North American psychopathy cut-off.

Please note: European research often applies a lower cut-off, commonly 25. The PCL-R measures a dimensional trait construct. It does not diagnose a DSM-5-TR or ICD-11 disorder. This form is a reference aid for trained clinicians and for record-keeping. It is not the official scoring instrument, which is published by Multi-Health Systems and restricted to qualified users.