

## ***Things to Remember:***

Each person with autism is unique and may exhibit different degrees of severity. But each child will display at least one of the three following characteristics:

1. Difficulty communicating both verbally and non-verbally.
2. Difficulty interacting with others.
3. Obsessive interests and sensory responses to an object or stimulus.

If your child displays one or more of these characteristics, seek the advice of a physician for a formal diagnosis. If your child begins to display all three of these characteristics, it is imperative to seek professional help as soon as possible.

It is most important to note that as the child becomes an adult, it is very likely that he or she will begin to display fewer characteristics. In rare instances, there have been cases of the child "growing out of autism."

The characteristics listed above are only intended to serve as an informational guideline to assist parents, family members, and caregivers and to encourage professional assistance if the child begins to display any of the signs.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, no two people with ASD are exactly alike. Each person with an ASD needs a treatment program tailored to meet the individual needs of the child and the family. While there is not yet a cure for ASD, early, intensive treatment can help children reach their full potential.