


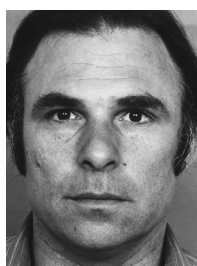
## Action Unit 17 – Chin Raiser

Figure 4-1 shows that the muscle underlying AU 17 emerges from an area below the lower lip and attaches far down the chin. In AU 17 the skin of the chin is pushed upwards, pushing up the lower lip.

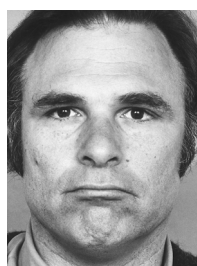
### A. Appearance Changes due to AU 17

1. Pushes the chin boss upward.
2. Pushes the lower lip upward.
3. May cause wrinkles to appear on the chin boss as skin is stretched, and may produce a depression medially under the lower lip.
4. Causes shape of mouth to appear  or for this inverted-U shape to increase if present in neutral.
5. If the action is strong enough, the lower lip may protrude. In some people protrusion can occur even in weak actions, especially if lips are moist and there is no friction holding lip against lip.

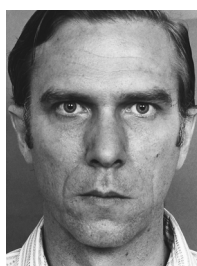
Compare images of 17 and w17. Note that the chin boss wrinkling shows a different pattern in the two examples and is more extensive in w17. The lower lip protrusion is also more evident in 17 than w17. Inspect the video of Action Unit 17.



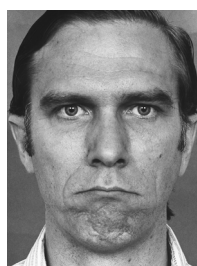
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w0 [page 465](#)  
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### B. How to do AU 17

This movement is easy to do. Push your lower lip upwards. Note the wrinkles in your chin, and the change in the shape of the lower lip. If you are unable to make this movement, place your fingers on your chin about in the middle and push the skin upwards, noting the changes that occur. Now try to hold this appearance when you take your fingers away.

Be certain you are not pulling the lip corners down, that would be AU 15 or 15+17.

### C. Intensity Scoring for AU 17

#### AU 17A

The appearance changes for AU 17 are sufficiently present to indicate AU 17, but are insufficient to score 17B (e.g., a *trace* of lower lip pushed up and/or *trace* of chin boss wrinkling).

#### AU 17B

1. *Slight* evidence of lower lip push up beyond the movement necessary to close the lips; may include lip protrusion, or depression in medial area under the red part of the lip. The lower lip may slide in front of the upper lip and expose more of the red part of the lip than usual.  
or

2. *Slight* chin boss wrinkling or puckering, and upward movement of chin boss. If the chin boss is permanently wrinkled, it must increase *slightly*. AU 15 may cause similar chin wrinkling, but they differ in appearance. See 15 vs. 17 in subtle differences.

Note that 17 and w17 meet both criteria.

### AU 17C

The pushing up of the lower lip and the wrinkling/puckering of the chin boss are both evident and at least one is *marked*, but the evidence is less than the criteria for 17D.

### AU 17D

The pushing up of the lower lip and the wrinkling/puckering of the chin boss are both evident and at least one is *severe*, but the evidence is less than the criteria for 17E.

### AU 17E

The pushing up of the lower lip and the wrinkling/puckering of the chin boss are both in the *maximum* range.

### Reference: AU 17

AU 28 can make detecting AU 17 difficult. Look for additional lifting and tightening of the chin boss to score 17 with 28.

#### Action Units or Combinations That Change the Intensity Scoring for AU 17

Problematic Combination of AUs	Target Action of Adjusted Criteria	Use These Criteria or See the Section Indicated
14+17	Criteria for 17B in 14+17	<i>Slight</i> chin boss wrinkling or puckering, <u>and</u> upward movement of chin boss. If the chin boss is permanently wrinkled, it must increase <i>slightly</i> . and <i>Slight</i> evidence that lower lip has been pushed up, narrowing the lips; if lower lip protrudes in front of upper lip, narrowing is not required.
16+17	Criteria for 17B in 16+17	<i>Slight</i> raise of the lower part of the chin boss. Wrinkling on the chin boss may be present, but is not required. However, if wrinkling on the chin boss is present, this is sufficient evidence that 17 has acted and that the chin boss has been raised.
17+23	WARNING about 17B in 17+23	The criteria for 17B in 17+23 are the <u>same</u> as for 17 alone. However, some of the accompanying signs of the lower lip push up, i.e., criterion 1 for 17b in 17secC, are altered by the presence of 23. The lip protrusion of 17 is not as evident as for 17 alone. Also, since 23 narrows the lips, 17 cannot expose more lip than usual.
12+17+23	WARNING about 17B in 12+17+23	See 17+23 above
14+17+23	WARNING about 17B in 14+17+23	Use criteria in 14+17 and heed warning of 17+23 above