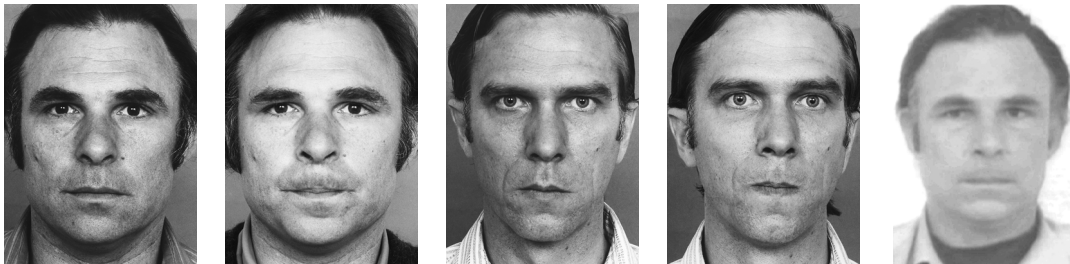

Action Unit 24 – Lip Presser

Figure 7-1 shows that this AU is based on the inner portion of the muscle orbiting the mouth within the lips. In AU 24 the lips are pulled in medially and pressed together.

A. Appearance Changes due to AU 24

1. Presses the lips together, without pushing up the chin boss (that would involve AU 17).
2. Lowers the upper lip and raises the lower lip to a small extent.
3. Tightens and narrows the lips. The lips appear de-elongated due to the narrowing and pressing of the center parts of the lips even though the lips themselves have not been pulled medially.
4. May cause small lines or wrinkles to appear on the upper lip.
5. May cause a bulging of the skin above the upper lip and/or below the lower lip.
6. Unlike 23, AU 24 cannot be scored separately for the top or bottom lip even though the pressing action may be greater in one lip than the other.

Compare image 24 with 0 and image w24 with w0 to examine the effects of AU 24. Note that the changes due to 24 are small. Compare 24 with w24, noting that appearance changes 4 and 5 above are more evident in image 24, while appearance change 3 is more evident in image w24. Inspect the video of 24.



0 [page 465](#)
[page 381](#) for score

24 [page 492](#)
[page 408](#) for score

w0 [page 465](#)
[page 382](#) for score

w24 [page 492](#)
[page 408](#) for score

video 24
[page 425](#) for score

B. How to do AU 24

This movement is easy to make. Press your lips together. Be careful not to push up with your lower lip in a hard fashion, as that would involve 17. Also be careful not to tighten your lip corners as that would involve 14.

C. Intensity Scoring for AU 24

AU 24A

The appearance changes for AU 24 are sufficiently present to indicate AU 24, but are insufficient to score 24B (e.g., a *trace* of lip pressing not accounted for by other AUs).

AU 24B

1. Lips *slightly* pressed together, which is not due just to AU 17 or another AU and is more than just the closing of the lips.

If you did not see the lips move, then evidence that lips are pressed against each other is required and at least one additional sign:

2. *Slight* bulge of skin below or above lips (not due to AU 17).
or
3. *Slight* narrowing of lips (not due to AU 23 or AU 28).

Note in 24 and w24 the lips are pressed and meet or exceed both criterion 2 and 3.

AU 24C

The lips are pressed together at least *markedly*, but the evidence is less than the criteria for 24D.

AU 24D

The lips are pressed together at least *severely*, but the evidence is less than the criteria for 24E.

AU 24E

The lips are pressed together *maximally*.

Reference: AU 24

AU 24 is difficult to detect in combination with the following AUs: 9+17, 10+17, 12+17, 17+22, 17+23, 18, 20, and 23. No other AU, however, presses the lips together in the same way as does 24. When in doubt, do not score 24 in these combinations. In tightening the lip corners inward, AU 14 makes detecting 24 difficult, but 14 does not press the lips together, so look for this sign when 14+24 is suspected. It is very unlikely that AU 24 would be visible when the lips are rolled into the mouth with AU 28, but if it can be seen, score it. The cheeks sucked in with AD 35 also is likely to hide any signs of AU 24, as well as the lips, but if the lip pressing can be seen, score 24. AD 34, cheek puff, takes some pressure on the lips to hold the air in the cheeks, but if the lips are pressed together more than necessary to hold the air in, score 24 in addition to 34.

Action Unit That Changes the Intensity Scoring for AU 24

Problematic Combination of AUs	Target Action of Adjusted Criteria	Use These Criteria
17+24	Criteria for scoring 24B in 17+24	a. Lips pressed together <i>slightly</i> , and, b. <i>Slight</i> bulge of skin above and/or below the lips and, c. <i>Slight</i> narrowing of the lips.
12+24	Criteria for scoring 24B in 12+24	Lips are pressed and flattened <i>slightly</i> , and lips may show <i>slightly</i> less red than in neutral face.