

ABAS-3 Report Write-Up Cheat Sheet

Reviewed by the BastionGPT Clinical Advisory Board · July 2026

The ABAS-3 measures adaptive behavior (conceptual, social, and practical skills) entirely by rating forms: parent, teacher, and adult self- or other-report, birth to 89. **Two metrics, never comparable:** the GAC and the three domains are standard scores (mean 100, SD 15); the 11 skill areas are scaled scores (mean 10, SD 3). A scaled 7 is a modest weakness; a standard 70 is two SDs down. Current edition is 2015; no ABAS-4 as of July 2026. WPS publishes it; Pearson only distributes.

1 – Measures, forms, raters, method which forms, whose ratings, how administered?

Do: name the edition, each form used, who completed it and their relationship, the dates, the method, and the norm set.

Pitfall: "the ABAS-3 was administered," with no form or rater named; self-report and other-report Adult Forms mean different things.

2 – Rater context and validity whose view, from which settings

Do: state each rater's opportunity to observe, the count of guessed answers, and whether each protocol was fully scorable.

Pitfall: silence about guessed answers; report the count and address it instead.

3 – Score summary, metrics labeled the two-metric discipline

Do: GAC and domains as standard scores (100/15) with CI and percentile; skill areas as scaled scores (10/3), a separate labeled metric.

Pitfall: the metric trap: a scaled score beside a standard score as if comparable.

4 – GAC first, then domains in prose Conceptual · Social · Practical

Do: lead with the GAC, then give functional meaning per domain with skill-area strengths and weaknesses inside.

Pitfall: the score dump: a paragraph per skill area in form order.

5 – Cross-informant comparison when raters disagree

Do: attribute differences to setting and observation opportunity; use the comparison output; keep each rater's scores separate.

Pitfall: averaging raters, or crowning one correct.

6 – Cognitive integration and severity adaptive carries the severity question

Do: pair adaptive with cognitive for ID; align severity language with DSM-5-TR (adaptive functioning, not IQ); state single-measure limits.

Pitfall: a severity or eligibility verdict from one number.

7 – Interpretive summary and limitations norms, settings, instrument choice

Do: summarize in two or three sentences; state the 2015 US norms, setting limits, and any instrument change from a prior evaluation.

Pitfall: comparing an ABAS-3 to a prior Vineland-3 as if they shared a ruler; published gaps reach 16 points.

8 – Recommendations linkage close the loop

Do: tie every support to a specific skill-area or domain finding; name the re-measurement instrument and interval.

Pitfall: recommendations that could follow any profile.

Before you sign

- ☐ Forms, raters, edition, and norm set named
- ☐ Metrics labeled; scaled scores read against 10, not 100
- ☐ Raters reconciled by setting, never averaged
- ☐ Severity keyed to adaptive functioning, not IQ
- ☐ Guessed answers and rater contact documented
- ☐ Each recommendation traces to a finding

Drafting with AI

Paste your score summary: forms, raters, GAC, domains, and skill areas with their metrics. Not the items, not the software narrative.

"Draft an ABAS-3 results section from this summary: Parent Form GAC 68, Conceptual 70, Social 75, Practical 71; Teacher Form GAC 65; referral: ID re-evaluation ..."

Never paste client-identifying information into consumer AI tools. BastionGPT is HIPAA-compliant with a signed BAA on every plan.

300–700 words
results section

15–20 min
per form

Birth to 89
five forms

Level C
qualification

ABAS-3 Results Section Template

Copy or print for your practice - Adapt fields to your organization's, payer's and jurisdiction's documentation requirements.

Client (initials): _____ Age / grade: _____ Form date(s): _____

Forms & raters: _____ Norm set: _____ Referral question: _____

Measures, forms, raters, method

Edition; each form used; rater and relationship; dates; paper or online; norm set

Rater context, validity, and guessed answers

Opportunity to observe; settings; count of estimated answers per form; protocols fully scorable

Score summary (label the two metrics)

GAC + Conceptual, Social, Practical = standard scores (100/15) with CI + percentile, per rater; skill areas = scaled (10/3); test-age equivalents only if required

GAC and domain results

GAC first, then Conceptual, Social, Practical: functional meaning for everyday life, skill areas inside

Cross-informant comparison

Agreements and divergences read by setting; comparison output used; scores never averaged

Severity and eligibility linkage

Adaptive paired with cognitive; DSM-5-TR severity by adaptive functioning; single-measure limit; limitations incl. norms and any instrument change

Recommendations linkage

Each support tied to a named skill-area or domain finding; re-measurement instrument and interval

Guessed answers noted: _____ Re-administration due: _____

Evaluator signature / credentials: _____ Date signed: _____

Supervisor signature, where required: _____ Date: _____