



## **Providers of audiovisual programmes<sup>1</sup> must submit a notification to National Audiovisual Institute (KAVI)**

The notification must be submitted if programmes are provided for economic purposes and on a regular basis.<sup>2</sup> The provider shall pay an annual supervision fee based on the method and locality of provision.

If a provider, however, provides only content exempt from the classification obligation enacted in Section 9 of the Act, they are not obliged to submit a notification.

The Notification is done at [kavi.fi/meku/kuvaohjelmat/tarjoajaksi-ilmoittautuminen](http://kavi.fi/meku/kuvaohjelmat/tarjoajaksi-ilmoittautuminen) (in Finnish) or or [kavi.fi/sv/enheten-mediefostran-och-bildprogram/aldersgranser/anmalan-om-tillhandahallande](http://kavi.fi/sv/enheten-mediefostran-och-bildprogram/aldersgranser/anmalan-om-tillhandahallande) (in Swedish).

Regarding distribution of digital games as recordings, the annual fee for providing digital games is EUR 100. The supervision fee is location-specific. The fee for on-demand provision is EUR 400, and public provision (game arcades) is EUR 200 annually.

*If the provider distributes games in several different localities or in several different ways (for example, sells recordings via the Internet and in two shops), a separate fee for each location must be paid. In the example case, the fee regarding the mail order service via the Internet is EUR 100 per year and regarding the video rental shops 2 x EUR 100, therefore a total of EUR 300 per year.*

## **The age limits and content symbols of classified games**

Persons under 18 years of age may only be provided a game if it has been classified and marked according to the Finnish law or it has been rated within European Union and the rating has been approved by KAVI unless the game has been exempt the obligation of classification (see Sections 9-11 in the Act). KAVI accepts PEGI ratings. Age limit and the detrimental content symbols must be visible in the game or in connection to it. The age limits and content symbols are as follows:

PEGI age rating and content symbols accepted in Finland:



1 Film, television programme, game or other moving picture content meant for viewing, which has been created by electronic means.

2 The registering and fee payment obligation does not apply to e.g. an organiser of an individual presentation of an audiovisual programme or a traffic contractor, who presents audiovisual programmes in a vehicle. However, all the other regulations of the law, such as the obligation to classify and mark and to abide by the age limits, are still valid for occasional presentations as well.

Finnish rating and content symbols:



Suitable for all  
(in Finnish)



Suitable for  
7 years and older



Suitable for  
12 years and older



Suitable for  
16 years and older



Forbidden  
under 18 years old



Suitable for all  
(in Swedish)



Contains  
violence



Contains  
sex scenes



May cause  
anxiety



Contains  
drug use

The content symbol represents the basis for the age limit, i.e. the subject of the content detrimental to children. Detrimental content to children may include violence, sexuality, issues causing anxiety or other content similar to these (illegal use of intoxicant/drugs).

The providers may draw up codes of conduct to promote best practices for marking the games with the age limit and content markings. KAVI ensure that practices are in accordance with the law.

### **The provider is under the obligation to comply with the age limits and to inform the audience about them**

Providing a game (distributing or public exhibition) to a minor is prohibited if the age limit of the programme is 18 years.

The provider of games must also ensure that an audiovisual programme with age rating 7, 12 or 16 is not viewed by a child younger than the appropriate age. The game can however be exhibited (in game arcades) when a child, at most three years younger than the age limit, is accompanied by an adult.

Regarding online distribution, providing an 18 rated game is allowed only when strong electronic verification is used to verify the age of the recipient. For more information on suppliers of strong verification services, contact the Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority, [www.ficora.fi](http://www.ficora.fi)

The providers of games may draw up codes of conduct to promote best practices for providing games (for example for verifying the age) and to promote media education. KAVI may ensure that these regulations follow the Act on Audiovisual Programmes.

KAVI supervises that the age limits are followed when providing digital games to the public. KAVI may impose a penalty payment if the provider, despite requests, refuses to fulfill the obligations as regulated by law.

### **Classification of a game**

KAVI maintains and develops an online based classification system for audiovisual programmes (including games), but the classification of audiovisual programmes<sup>3</sup> is mainly the responsibility of autonomous and independent audiovisual programme classifiers trained and certified by KAVI.

<sup>3</sup> An evaluation based on viewing the audiovisual programme as to whether the audiovisual programme may be detrimental to the development of a child younger than certain age.

KAVI supervises their operations. KAVI keeps a registry of all certified classifiers.

KAVI collects a fee for the use of the classification system for audiovisual programmes and registration of audiovisual programmes.<sup>4</sup> The fee is annually determined by the Ministry of Culture and Education. See [Fees](#).

The provider of digital games must ensure that the game provided is either rated and marked according to the PEGI system or has been registered to the audiovisual programme database of KAVI and marked accordingly with age limit and content symbols. The registration is carried out in connection with the classification process. Each game shall be registered just once, but each format of a particular title has to be registered individually.

KAVI accept the PEGI classification and marking system common across the EU.

## **A game exempt from classification**

A game exempt from classification obligation

- one which only includes
  - educational or cultural material;
  - music or sports;
  - quizzes or quiz shows, or
  - other content as regulated by section 9 of the Act on Audiovisual Programmes.
- provided through a service providing browser/casual games. However, game providers must follow the code of conduct they have compiled and KAVI has inspected.
- Explicitly meant for adult audiences. Such a game is to be marked with this symbol:



The instructions are based on the Act on Audiovisual Programmes (710/2010 finlex.fi).

## **Further information:**

Department for Media Education and Audiovisual Media,  
kavi.fi/en/meku, or

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<sup>4</sup> All episodes of a serial programme will be classified separately.