Fetal Development: Month by Month

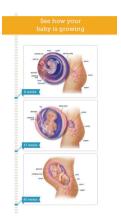




The leading pregnancy and parenting destination worldwide

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Women can keep up with their baby's development and their body's changes using the free BabyCenter pregnancy app. Support and information is customized for the woman's stage of pregnancy. Simply enter the baby's due date, and BabyCenter My Pregnancy Today turns the woman's phone into an expert guide for each day of her pregnancy.

This comprehensive daily pregnancy app and due date calculator is from BabyCenter, the number one pregnancy and parenting resource trusted by millions of mothers worldwide.

My Baby Today app - free from BabyCenter





What does every new parent need? Support. Advice. Reminders. Reasons to laugh.

The free My Baby Today app is customized to the age of the baby and has a personalized daily calendar, helpful checklists and even a built-in photo album.

This comprehensive daily baby app is from BabyCenter, the number one pregnancy and parenting resource trusted by millions of mothers worldwide.



BabyCenter is the world's partner in parenting, providing mothers with trusted advice from experts around the globe. Use this chart to show women how their baby develops month by month.

For more information, videos and pregnancy resources, visit your local BabyCenter website to get started!







Your baby:

Is 5cm in length - about as long as your thumb and weighs slightly less than 15g.

Has all her vital organs - liver, kidneys, intestines and brain.

Has webbed hands and feet. Soon they will separate and she will be able to close her fingers and curl her toes.

Has taste buds forming on her tongue.

Has eyelids which completely cover her eyes and tiny earlobes that are now visible.

Is busy kicking and stretching.

You:

May notice your breasts getting larger and your waistline expanding.

Your placenta is producing nutrients for your baby.

May notice a dark vertical line on your belly.

May find it difficult to sleep.

Notes:		







Your baby:

Is about 10cms long and weighs about 100g.

Has a fully working circulatory system and urinary tract.

Has developed sucking muscles in her cheeks.

Has started to develop ultra-fine, downy hair (lanugo) all over her body.

Can grasp, squint, frown, and grimace.

Is playful and will enjoy pulling and grabbing her umbilical chord.

You:

Have probably gained between 2.2kg and 4.5kg.

May feel a slight pain in the sides when you move suddenly. This is because ligaments on each side of your uterus and pelvic walls are stretching as your baby grows.

May have constipation as pregnancy hormones affect your digestion. Drink plenty of water and eat plenty of fruit and vegetables.

Notes:	







Your baby:

Is about 16.5cm and is steadily gaining weight.

Is covered in a whitish creamy substance called vernix caseosa. This protects her skin and makes the birth easier.

Is developing sweat glands.

Is swallowing amniotic fluid, which is good practice for her digestive system.

Is developing all her senses - taste, smell, hearing, seeing and touch.

Has begun to sprout hair on her head.

You:

Will be showing well by now.

May feel your baby's movements.

May be quite noticeably hungry – make sure you eat well.

You will need plenty of iron in your food to help your baby grow. Eat enough cereals, lentils, fish and poultry.

Notes:		







Your baby: You: Measures about 30cm and weighs more Have gained 5.5kg - 7kg. than 600g. May notice an increase in vaginal discharge. Has eyebrows, and eyelids that blink. It's normal. Has fully formed taste buds. May have bleeding gums. Use a soft toothbrush to brush your teeth regularly. Has footprints and fingerprints. May be noticing stretch marks on your belly, Can hear your voice. hips and breasts. Notes:







Your baby:

Weighs a little over 1kg and is about 40cm long.

Will sleep and wake at regular intervals.

May suck a finger or thumb. Some babies are born with a 'sucking blister'.

Is getting used to blinking his eyes, which now have eyelashes.

Has a prominent clitoris, if she is a girl. If he is a boy, his testicles have descended from near the kidneys towards the scrotum.

You:

May be feeling breathless as your uterus (womb) is now up near your rib cage.

May find that your fingers, wrists and hands feel achy and numb.

May feel constipated. Make sure to have plenty of fibre-rich foods like whole grain bread, cereals, lentils and brown rice.

May notice rhythmic movements in your abdomen if your baby gets the hiccups.

Notes:	







Your baby:

Weighs about 2kg and measures around 45cm.

Has almost fully developed lungs and digestive tract.

May have a head of hair already.

Is getting ready for birth by turning upside-down. Her head should be pointing down, ready for her journey into the world.

Has a pliable skull. The plates of bone that make up her skull have not completely fused. This makes it easier for her to pass through the relatively narrow birth canal.

You:

Will be quite big now and may gain weight each week.

May notice that your feet and ankles are quite swollen by the end of the day. This is due to water retention or oedema.

May feel breathless as your bump is high up under your breasts and presses against your diaphragm.

Notes:	







Your baby:

Weighs close to 3kg and may be almost 50cm long.

Is filling out and getting rounder – she'll need her fat layers later to regulate her body temperature once she's born.

Will stretch and squirm about inside you. You may see the shape of her elbows or feet on your bump.

Has full-length fingernails and toenails.

Has now lodged her head in your pelvic cavity – surrounded and protected by your pelvic bones.

You:

You've probably put on between 11kg and 13.6kg by now.

May start to notice a tingling sensation or numbness in the pelvic region or pain as you walk. This may be caused by the pelvic joints loosening, ready for labour.

May begin to feel an increased pressure in your lower belly and notice that your baby is gradually dropping down into the pelvis ready for birth.

Notes:	







Your baby:

Won't grow much in length now, but may put on half a kilo or so in the last month.

Continues to build the fat stores that will help regulate body temperature after birth.

Has lungs that are ready to work. Even after your baby is born, it may take a few hours before he establishes a normal breathing pattern.

Is ready to greet the world!

You:

May have low backache and niggling contractions as your body gets ready to go into labour.

May notice an increased vaginal discharge, or even some brownish spotting as your cervix starts to ripen and soften for labour.

Notes:	





