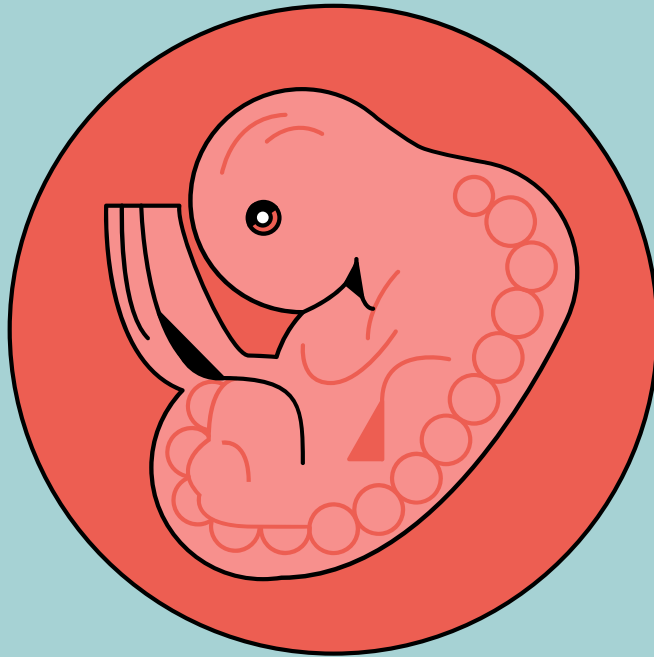


Week 1-8



- Placenta begins to form.
- The brain and spinal cord begin to form.
- The tissues that will form the heart begin to beat. The heartbeat can be detected with ultrasound at around 6 weeks of pregnancy.
- Buds for limbs, with paddle-like hands and feet, appear.
- The eyes, ears and nose begin to develop. Eyelids form but remain closed.
- The genitals begin to develop.
- By the end of the eighth week, all major organs and body systems have begun to develop.

Week 9-12



- Buds for future teeth appear.
- Fingers and toes start to form. Soft nails begin to form.
- Bones and muscles begin to grow.
- The intestines begin to form.
- The backbone is soft and can flex.
- The skin is thin and transparent.
- The hands are more developed than the feet.
- The arms are longer than the legs.

Week 13-16



- *Arms and legs can flex.*
- *External sex organs are formed.*
- *The outer ear begins to develop.*
- *The fetus can swallow and hear.*
- *The neck is formed.*
- *Kidneys are functioning and begin to produce urine.*

Week 17-20



- The sucking reflex develops. If the hand floats to the mouth, the baby may suck their thumb.
- The skin is wrinkled, and the body is covered with a waxy coating (vernix) and fine hair (lanugo).
- The baby is more active. You may be able to feel your baby move.
- The baby sleeps and wakes regularly.
- Nails grow to the tips of the fingers.
- The gallbladder begins producing bile, which is needed to digest nutrients.
- In females, the eggs have formed in the ovaries. In males, the testes have begun to descend.
- It may be possible to tell the sex of the fetus on an ultrasound exam.

Week 21-24



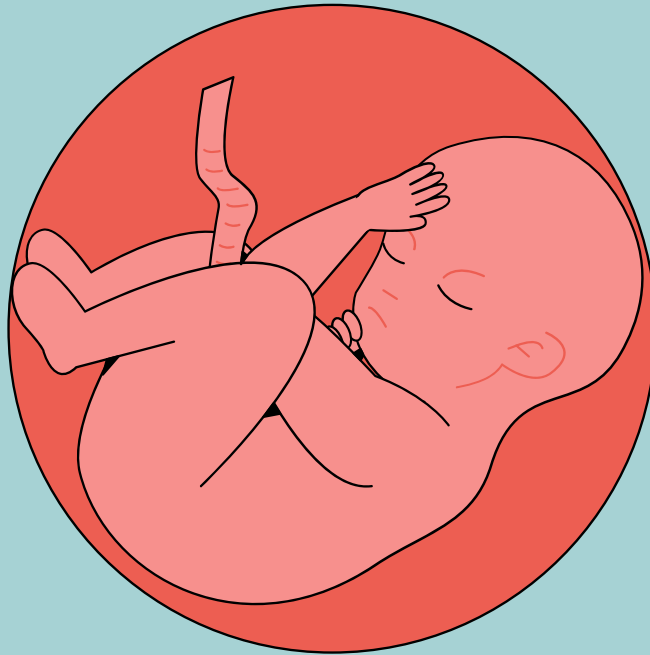
- The baby may hiccup.
- The brain is rapidly developing.
- Tear ducts are developing.
- Finger and toe prints can be seen.
- The lungs are fully formed but not yet ready to function outside of the uterus.

Week 25-28



- The eyes can open and close and sense changes in light.
- The baby kicks and stretches.
- The baby can make grasping motions and responds to sound.
- Lung cells begin to make a substance that will enable breathing.

Week 28-32



- With its major development finished, the baby gains weight very quickly.
- Bones harden, but the skull remains soft and flexible for delivery.
- The different regions of the brain continue to form.
- Hair on the head starts to grow and the fine hair (lanugo) begins to disappear.

Week 33-36



- The baby usually turns into a head-down position for birth.
- The brain continues to develop.
- The skin is less wrinkled.
- The lungs are maturing and getting ready to work outside of the uterus.
- Sleeping patterns develop.

Week 37-40



- The baby drops lower into the pelvis.
- More fat accumulates, especially around the elbows, knees and shoulders.
- The baby gains about half a pound per week during this last month of pregnancy.