



FERTILIZATION (WEEKS 0-2)

- ◇ Women release an egg (called an ovum) is released from their ovary every month.
- ◇ During sex, when sperm from the man enters the woman's body through the vagina, it fertilizes the egg.
- ◇ The fertilized egg, with genes from both parents, begins to rapidly grow and divide in the first two weeks

FORMING THE WOMB (WEEK 3)

- ◇ Protective liquid, called the amniotic fluid, begins to collect in the mother's womb, called the amniotic sac.


- ◇ The fertilized egg is now a

- ◇ The fertilized egg is now a small clump of several hundred rapidly-multiplying cells.
- ◇ Cells of the baby, also called the embryo, arrange themselves into two layers.
- ◇ Cells of the placenta produce a hormone for the baby. The placenta, also known as the afterbirth, is an organ that connects the mother and baby. It allows for nutrients from the mother to pass to and nourish the baby.



EARLY DEVELOPMENT (WEEKS 4-7)

- ◇ The beginnings of the brain develops, starting with the spine.
- ◇ The yolk sac, which generates the baby's blood, develops.

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- ◇ Arm, leg, tailbone, eyelid, and jaw structures begin to develop.
 - ◇ The umbilical cord, which connects the baby to the placenta, begins to loop into the baby's stomach.
 - ◇ The mother will need to urinate more often because there's more fluid inside her.

MONTH 2-3 (WEEKS 8-13)

- ◇ Earlobes, knees, fingers, wrists, and shoulders begin to develop.
- ◇ Networks in the baby's brain begin to develop.
- ◇ The uterus, located in the mother's stomach, doubles doubled in size, but the mother doesn't begin showing yet.
- ◇ The doctor does a test called chorionic villi sampling at this stage. This

sampling at this stage. This test detects early abnormalities in the unborn child. A tiny tissue sample is taken from the placenta near the growing fetus.

- ◇ The unborn child's bones become more solid, while skin remains clear and delicate.




MONTH 4 (WEEKS 14-17)

- ◇ The baby's urinary system and blood flow are finished developing.
- ◇ Arms and legs continue to grow, and all joints completely develop.
- ◇ Toenails, and a thin sheath of hair around the baby's body, called the lanugo, develop.

MONTH 5 (WEEK 18-22)

- ◇ The sensory system develops in the brain.

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- ◇ The doctor performs ultrasounds and birth defect screenings at this stage.
 - ◇ A greasy outer cover, called the vernix caseosa, develops over the baby's skin to protect it from damage.
 - ◇ Eyes develop, but there's no color in them yet.
 - ◇ Tooth buds and lips become distinct.
 - ◇ The mother will begin showing, as the uterus becomes larger to support the growing baby.

MONTH 6 (WEEKS 23 – 27)

- ◇ Extra fluid in the womb can cause pressure, and swelling, called edema.
- ◇ The baby can now open and close its eyes.
- ◇ Male genitals begin to develop.

MONTH 7 (WEEKS 28 – 32)

- ◇ The baby now has eyelashes, taste buds, fingernails, and toenails.
- ◇ The average baby grows to about 3.75 pounds and 16.7 inches long at this point.
- ◇ The skeleton is solid now, and healthy fat cells build up under the skin
- ◇ The doctor tests the mother for STIs and pre-eclampsia.

develop.

- ◇ Lungs begin to develop.

MONTH 8 (WEEKS 33 – 37)

- ◇ The baby can now control its temperature, because of extra fat.
- ◇ Skull bones begin to narrow to make prepare for travelling through the mother's birth canal.



- ◇ The baby sheds protective coverings on the skin and hair.
- ◇ Facial muscles are developed enough that babies can smile.
- ◇ The average baby will grow about an ounce a day, and should be around 19 inches long.
- ◇ The mother's stomach continues to enlarge.
- ◇ Labor, both false and actual, is possible at this stage.

MONTH 9 (WEEK 38-41)

- ◇ Lungs are developed, and eye color forms.
- ◇ Soft spots in the skull form, and may last up to a year after delivery.
- ◇ Hair and nails continue to grow

grown

- ◇ The amniotic fluid can “break,” which the start of labor
- ◇ The average baby, by now, is amount 7.5 pounds and 20 inches long

