**Baby Development: Seven to Nine Months**

During the second half of this year, your little one becomes a baby on the go. After learning that they can get somewhere by rolling over, they’ll spend the next few months figuring out how to move forward or backward. If you haven’t baby-proofed yet, better get on it!

* During this time period, your baby may:
* Start to crawl. This can include scooting (propelling around on their bottom) or “army crawling” (dragging themselves on their tummy by arms and legs), as well as standard crawling on hands and [**knees**](https://www.webmd.com/pain-management/knee-pain/picture-of-the-knee). Some babies never crawl, moving directly to from scooting to walking.
* Sit without support.
* Respond to familiar words like their name. They may also respond to “No” by briefly stopping and looking at you, and may start babbling "Mama" and "Dada."
* Clap and play games such as patty-cake and peekaboo.
* Learn to pull up to a standing position.

**Baby Development: 10 to 12 Months**

The last development stage in baby’s first year is quite a transition. They aren’t an [**infant**](https://www.webmd.com/parenting/baby/rm-quiz-newborn-typical) anymore, and they might look and act more like a [**toddler**](https://www.webmd.com/parenting/rm-quiz-typical-toddler). But they are still a baby in many ways. They are learning to:

* Begin feeding herself. Babies at this developmental stage master the “pincer grasp“ -- meaning they can hold small objects such as O-shaped cereal between their thumb and forefinger.
* Cruise, or move around the room on their feet while holding onto the furniture.
* Say one or two words, and "Mama" and "Dada" become specific name for parents. The average is about three spoken words by the first birthday, but the range on this is enormous.
* Point at objects they want in order to get your attention.
* Begin “pretend play” by copying you or using objects correctly, such as pretending to talk on the phone.
* Take their first steps. This usually happens right around one year, but it can vary greatly.

**Your Baby’s Development: When to Talk to a Pediatrician**

What should you do if you think your baby is not meeting growth or developmental milestones, when they should? First, says Shu, trust your instincts. “If you really feel like something’s wrong, then talk to your doctor about it because if there is a problem, we want to catch it as soon as we can," she says. "Early intervention is best, and you know your child better than anyone.”

Remember, however, that it is not exactly *when* your baby sits up by themselves or says their first words that is important; it’s that they are moving forward in their development. “Don’t look at the time as much as the progression, and see that your child is changing and growing,” says Shu. “It’s not a race. Nobody’s going to ask on a college application when your child first walked or said ‘da-da.’”