

TRIMESTER ONE

MONTH 1 WEEK 4

Fertilization! The sperm and egg join in your fallopian tube to form a unique human being -- that's 46 combined chromosomes which pre-determine all of a person's physical characteristics.

Washed into your uterus, the developing embryo searches for a nice place to implant and is only one-sixth of an inch long, but growing quickly.

The heart, no larger than a poppy seed, has been beating since day 18 when you're just four days late for your menstrual period, and by 21 days it is pumping, through its own closed circulatory system, blood whose type is different from yours.

Four weeks after fertilization the eye, ear and respiratory systems begin to form.



MONTH 1 WEEK 4
0.4 cm - 0.16 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 1 MONTH



TRIMESTER ONE

MONTH 2 WEEK 8

By 8 weeks the embryo grows to 1/2 an inch, the major muscles system develops and she moves gracefully like a good swimmer although you can't feel it yet.

This tiny human is perfectly developed with long, tapering fingers, feet and toes and whose skin is almost transparent with a highway of delicate arteries and veins visible to the ends of the fingers.

By 10 weeks, 20 tiny baby teeth are forming in the gums, she squints, swallows, moves her tongue, and if you stroke her palm, will make a tight fist. The toes will develop in the next few days and brain waves can be measured and she will react to loud noises.



MONTH 2 WEEK 8
1.3 cm - 0.5 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 2 MONTHS

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STANDUPGIRL.COM FOUNDATION

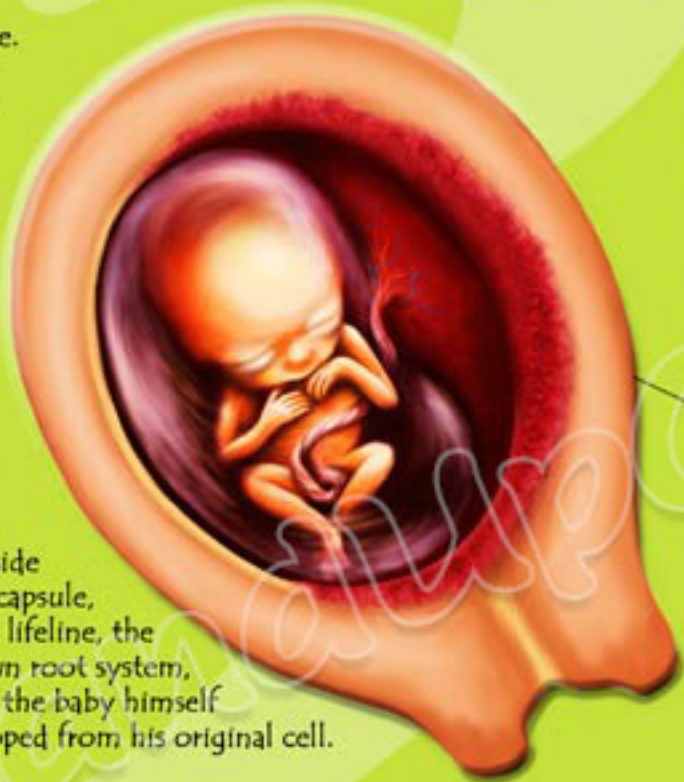
TRIMESTER ONE

MONTH 3 WEEK 12

Your baby is now in its fetal stage. Fully formed the heart rate can be heard with a Doppler and just as adults, the fetal baby can experience the rapid eye movement sleep of dreams.

From 12 weeks, they can stretch, kick and leap around the womb - well before the mother can feel movement.

The body is more complex than ours. The fetal baby has several extra parts to his body which he needs only so long as he lives inside his mother. He has his own space capsule, the amniotic sac. He has his own lifeline, the umbilical cord, and he has his own root system, the placenta. These all belong to the baby himself and not to his mother, all developed from his original cell.



MONTH 3 WEEK 12
7.6 cm . 3 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 3 MONTHS

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TRIMESTER TWO

MONTH 4 WEEK 16

Your baby is coated with soft downy hair called "lanugo" and comes in at about 6 inches in length and weighing 6 to 7 ounces.

Fine hair, eyelashes, and fingerprints are all complete.

Awake or asleep, the human fetus moves 50 times or more each hour exploring her warm, wet compartment by touch. She touches her hand to her face, places one hand on the other hand, clasps her feet, places her hand to the umbilical cord and sometimes walks around the womb by pushing off with her feet.



ultrasound

e-scope



MONTH 4 WEEK 16
15.2 cm - 6 inches

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YOUR BABY AT 4 MONTHS



TRIMESTER TWO

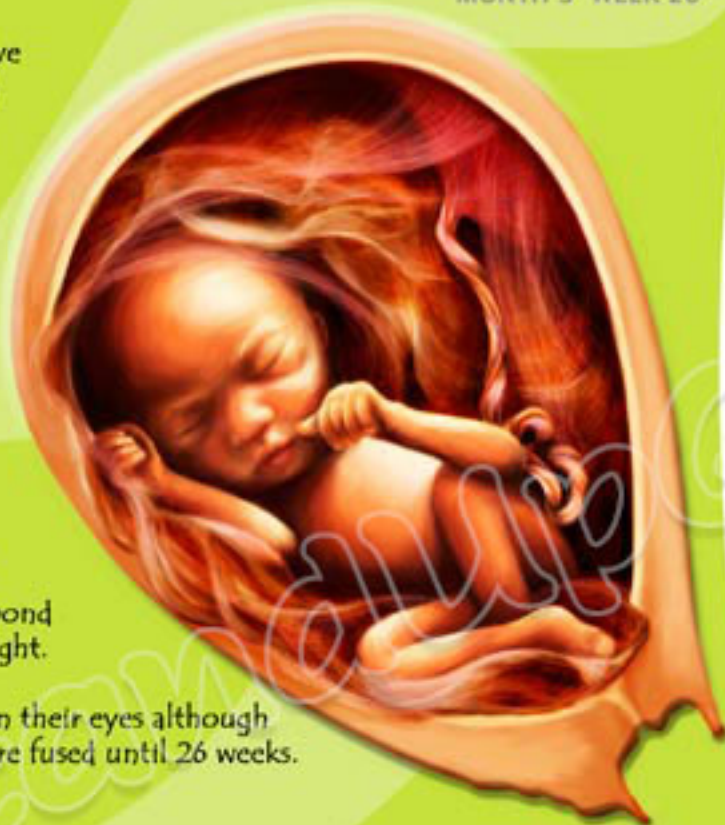
MONTH 5 WEEK 20

By 20 weeks your baby will have grown to 1 pound or 454g and though still small and fragile she can hear and recognize her mother's voice.

You'll be feeling the baby move even more and using an ultrasound device the doctor can tell if the child is a girl or a boy.

Although vision is the last sense to develop there is sometimes just enough light filtered through the mother's tissue that a fetal baby can respond when the mother is in bright light.

From 18 weeks, babies can open their eyes although it was once thought eyelids were fused until 26 weeks.



MONTH 5 WEEK 20
25.4 cm - 10 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 5 MONTHS

TRIMESTER TWO

MONTH 6 WEEK 24

The tender skin is now covered by a waxy substance called "vernix" and the baby continues to practice breathing by inhaling amniotic fluid in preparation for the big day when she takes her first breath of air.

Her eyes begin to part and open occasionally for short periods of time. Hiccups are not uncommon.

The baby learns constantly. After birth it prefers the mother's voice because she has been listening to mom filtered through the amniotic fluid. From 26 weeks, babies exhibit a whole range of typical baby behaviour and moods, including scratching, smiling, crying, hiccuping, and sucking.



MONTH 6 WEEK 24
30.5 cm - 12 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 6 MONTHS

TRIMESTER THREE

MONTH 7 WEEK 28

By month's end, your baby is 14 to 16 inches long and can weigh 2.5 to 3.5 pounds. The organs continue to mature.

If you expose your belly to a bright light you may get a quick reaction. The fetal baby can now inhale, exhale and even cry. Eyes have completely formed, and the tongue has developed taste buds.

His body fat is beginning to form in preparation for life outside the womb.

If born at this time, he will be considered a premature baby and require special care.



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MONTH 7 WEEK 28
38.1 cm - 15 inches

ultrasound



m-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 7 MONTHS

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TRIMESTER THREE

MONTH 8 WEEK 32

At eight months of pregnancy, your baby may weigh from 4 to 6 pounds and is gaining about half a pound per week. Layers of fat are piling on under her skin. Soon she will turn head down in preparation for her coming birth.

Most body organs are now developed with the exception of the lungs and if the baby kicks you'll not only feel it but also be able to see it on the outside.

Tremendous brain growth occurs at this time and the finger nails begin to extend past the fingertips.



MONTH 8 WEEK 32
45.7 cm - 18 inches

ultrasound



e-scope



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YOUR BABY AT 8 MONTHS

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE STANDUPGIRL.COM FOUNDATION

TRIMESTER THREE

MONTH 9 WEEK 36

By nine months, most of your baby's bones have hardened, although her skull is still pliable. She's shedding most of the downy covering of hair as well as the creamy vernix caseosa that covered her body. She'll spend the next few weeks just putting on weight.

Soon your baby settles down lower in the abdomen in preparation for birth and may seem less active. Skin is pink and smooth and the child measures 19 to 20 inches in length. Lungs are mature and at approximately 8 pounds the baby is ready for life outside your womb.



MONTH 9 WEEK 36
50.8 cm - 20 inches

ultrasound



e-scope



COURTESY OF STANDUPGIRL.COM

YOUR BABY AT 9 MONTHS