

Baby's month-to-month development

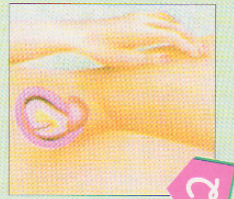
The following is a brief, month-by-month description of the characteristics of a developing baby. No two pregnancies are alike, and these descriptions are based on average development.



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First month

Even before you know for sure that you are pregnant, your baby's central nervous system, heart, and digestive system start to develop. The embryo is smaller than a grain of rice.



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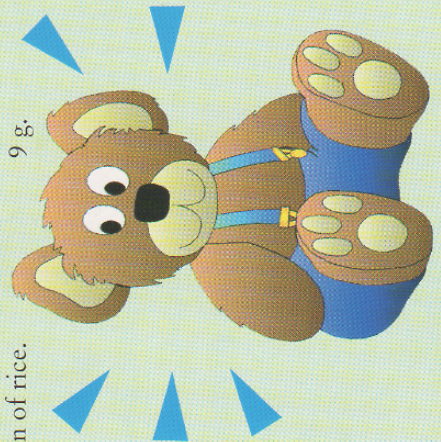
Second month

By the end of 3 month, your baby is about 6 to 8 cm long and weighs about 14 g. The arms, hands, fingers, feet, and toes are fully formed. Fingernails, toenails, and the beginnings of teeth are starting to develop. The external sex organs are developed by this time, and the internal sex organs are beginning to develop.



3

Third month



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Fourth month

By the end of the fourth month, your baby's is 10 cm long and is now nourished by the placenta. The baby can swallow and suck his or her thumb. You may be able to hear your baby's heartbeat when you visit your doctor this month.



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Fifth month

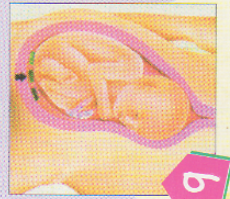
Your baby is busy developing muscles and exercising them. Although he or she has been moving for some time now, you may feel your baby move for the first time. Your baby is about 20 to 25 cm long.



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Sixth month

At the end of the sixth month, your baby measures about 33 cm long and weighs about .80 kg. The skin is reddish, wrinkled, and covered with a heavy, protective, creamy coating. His or her eyelids will begin to open.



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Seventh month

During this month, your baby continues to grow and gain weight. He or she is about 45 cm long and can weigh as much as 2 kg. Your baby can see and hear, but the lungs may still be immature.

Eighth month

Your baby continues to grow and gain weight. He or she is about 50 cm long. Sometime during the ninth month, your baby drops down into your pelvis; settles lower into your abdomen, and may seem less active. Your baby is ready to be born.

Ninth month

At the end of the ninth month, the average full term baby weighs 3.5 kg and is about 50 cm long. Sometime during the ninth month, your baby drops down into your pelvis; settles lower into your abdomen, and may seem less active. Your baby is ready to be born.

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