

4 weeks

The early brain and spinal cord are developing. The heart starts to beat. Not yet a foetus - currently called an embryo.

8 weeks

Intestines have started to develop and arms and legs begin to sprout. The heart has 4 chambers. Organs are beginning to work. The baby can now bend its hands at the wrist. It is still an embryo at this stage.

12 weeks

Ankles, fingers and toes have formed and the embryo is now officially a foetus. Genitals are formed and the baby can even hiccup. Finger nails and toe nails are starting to develop. Eyes and ears have almost moved to their final positions .

16 weeks

Eyebrows and hair are beginning to grow and facial expressions are evident. A scan can now show the sex of the baby. Lungs have started to work, inhaling and exhaling amniotic fluid, and the circulatory system and urinary tract are both fully functional .

20 weeks

Baby can now kick, flex its fingers, and roll. Senses are developing: taste, smell, hearing, sight and touch are becoming more advanced. There may also be some hair on its head, and its kidneys are starting to make urine.

24 weeks

Baby may now be able to hear a distorted version of its mother's voice, her heartbeat and rumbling tummy. Taste buds are fully formed and lungs are developing quickly.

28 weeks

Opens and closes eyes and may be able to detect continuous bright lights outside of its mother's belly. Bones are nearly developed. It has eyebrows and eye lashes.

32 weeks

Skin is soft and smooth, and it may already have a full head of hair. Baby is getting plumper and developing layers of fat. Starts to inhale amniotic fluid to exercise its lungs.

36 weeks

Continues to grow - almost ready for birth.

40 weeks

Ready to be born