
Lennart Nilsson is a pioneer in medical photography, credited with inventing numerous devices and techniques in his field. The photos used in this booklet have been published internationally in scientific periodicals and used in the popular press and television.

Robert Wolfe is a medical photographer in Minnesota. He made the photo on page 4 of an ectopic pregnancy while working at the Bell Museum of Pathology, at the University of Minnesota.
Introduction

This brochure is designed to give you some basic information before deciding whether or not to have an abortion. It tells about normal human embryonic and fetal development.

Ages are listed from both the estimated day of conception and from the first day of the last normal menstrual period. The lengths are measured from top of the head to the rump.

The law requires your doctor to tell you about the nature and physical and emotional risks of both the abortion procedure and carrying a child to term. The doctor must tell you how old the embryo or fetus is and must give you a chance to ask questions in private. You should discuss your decision carefully with your doctor.

There are public and private agencies that can give you medical and financial help as well as counseling. A list is included in the Directory of Services accompanying this booklet.

The father’s duty

The father of a child has a legal duty to support his child. That duty can include child support payments and health insurance.

A child may be eligible through his or her father for social security, pension, veterans or disability benefits. He or she may have rights of inheritance or life insurance benefits. In addition, the child will know his or her medical history.

Paternity can be established two ways:
1. the father can sign the birth certificate or a statement of paternity, or
2. an action in court.

With paternity establishment, the child has a bond with his or her father. The child does not have to experience the problems often facing a child who does not know who his or her father is.

More information concerning paternity establishment may be obtained from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services or the county Child Support Enforcement Agency, both of which may be contacted by calling 1-800-686-1556.
A pregnant woman may notice her first missed menstrual period at the end of the second week after conception, or about four weeks after the first day of her last normal period.

There are different kinds of urine tests for pregnancy. Some may not be accurate for up to three weeks, or five weeks after the first day of your last normal period.
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2 weeks

(4 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The human embryo is about one-hundredth ($\frac{1}{100}$) of an inch long.
• Implantation began the first week and continues.

By the 25th day, the heart begins to beat

4 weeks

(6 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The embryo is about one-sixth ($\frac{1}{6}$) of an inch long.
• By the end of the first month, the embryo has a head and a trunk.
• Structures that will become arms and legs, called limb buds, begin to appear.
• The heart, now in a tubular form, begins to beat by the 25th day.
6 weeks

(8 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The embryo is about half an inch long and has a four-chambered heart.

• Electrical activity begins in the developing brain and nervous system.

• The fingers begin to develop.

• The embryo has nostrils.

There are several ways to prevent an unwanted pregnancy. The methods on these two pages are things you do on your own, and do not require a prescription from a doctor.

More information

You must decide not to have sex. Ask your partner to agree. This is the most successful way to avoid pregnancy.

May be bought at many stores. Read and follow the instructions on the package. Condoms prevent pregnancy between 88% and 98% of the time.

May be bought at many stores. Read and follow the instructions on the package. These methods prevent pregnancy between 79% and 97% of the time.

Couples must learn how to calculate the individual woman’s most fertile times and must abstain from sex during these most fertile times. Talk to an expert. Effective between 80% and 99% of the time, depending on the method used.

May be bought at many stores. Read and follow the instructions on the package. Prevents pregnancy in women who have never had children between 82% and 94% of the time; it is less effective in women who have had children.

Effectiveness varies according to method, use and individual history. The range reflects the least expected incidence to the typical incidence during one year continuous use.
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**8 weeks**

The embryo begins to form arms, legs, hands, toes and a face.

(10 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

- The embryo is about one and one-fifth (1\(\frac{1}{5}\)) inches long.
- The head is about half the size of the embryo.
- The beginnings of all key body parts are present, although they are not completely developed or positioned in their final locations.
- The embryo has ears, fingers, and toes.
The fetal heart beat can be detected electronically

10 weeks

(12 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about two and one-half (2½) inches from head to rump.

• The fingernails are developing.

• Between 8 and 10 weeks, the fetus begins small, random movements, though they are too slight to be felt yet.

• The fetal heart beat can be detected electronically.

There are many ways to adopt—through a public or private agency, or through a private attorney.

For more information, call the Ohio Department of Health at 1-800-755-4769.

You can also call your county children services agency, or a private adoption agency listed in your phone book.
What about adoption?

Women or couples facing an untimely pregnancy who choose not to assume the full responsibilities of parenthood have another option: adoption. There is a great demand for adoption, and many babies are placed as soon as the child is surrendered.

Placing a child for adoption is a loving decision, but is rarely an easy one. Counseling and support services are a key part of adoption and are available from a variety of adoption agencies and parent support groups across the state. The services directory that accompanies this booklet includes a list of adoption agencies in your county.

For more information, call 1-800-755-4769.

The doctor can often tell you if the fetus is a boy or a girl by special tests

(14 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

- The fetus is about three and one-half (3 1/2) inches from head to rump.
- The fetus is able to swallow, and the kidneys are able to make urine.
- A doctor may be able to tell you if it’s a boy or a girl by special tests.
- Blood begins to form in the bone marrow.

The photo here is half the size.
16 weeks

(16 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about four and three-fourths (4\frac{3}{4}) inches from head to rump.

• The head is erect and the legs are developed.

The baby has reached full term and is ready to be born

(18 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about five and one-half (5\frac{1}{2}) inches from head to rump.

• The ears stick out from the head.

The fetus can kick, swallow and sleep

38 weeks

(40 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about fourteen (14) inches from head to rump, and may be 20 inches or more overall.

The baby is full term and ready to be born.

If you decide to give birth, the services directory the doctor gave you with this book tells you where to find medical and financial help, as well as counseling.
22 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period

• The fetus is about seven and one-half \((7\frac{1}{2})\) inches from head to rump.

• The fetus has fingerprints, and may have some head and body hair.

• Although the fetus has been able to move for several weeks, movements, known as “quickening,” are now felt by the pregnant woman.

34 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period

• The fetus is about eleven and three-fourths \((11\frac{3}{4})\) inches from head to rump.

• Almost all babies born now will live.

The photo here is two-thirds actual size.

36 weeks

(38 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about thirteen and one-half \((13\frac{1}{2})\) inches from head to rump.

• The fetus can grasp firmly.

32 weeks

(34 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about eleven and three-fourths \((11\frac{3}{4})\) inches from head to rump.

• Almost all babies born now will live.

The fetus has been moving for several weeks. Now the woman begins to feel these movements.
About 4 out of 10 babies born now will live.

### 24 weeks

(26 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

- The fetus is about nine (9) inches from head to rump.
- The fetus can respond to sound.
- About 4 out of 10 babies born now will live.

### At 28 weeks, the fetus has lungs that can breathe air

(30 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

- The fetus is about ten and one-half (10\(\frac{1}{2}\)) inches from head to rump.
- The fetus has lungs that are capable of breathing air, although medical help may be needed.
- The eyes are open.
- About 9 out of 10 babies born now will survive.
**About 4 out of 10 babies born now will live**

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20 weeks

(22 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about seven and one-half (71/2) inches from head to rump.

• The fetus has fingerprints, and may have some head and body hair.

• Although the fetus has been able to move for several weeks, movements, known as “quickening,” are now felt by the pregnant woman.

32 weeks

(34 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about eleven and three-fourths (113/4) inches from head to rump.

• Almost all babies born now will live.

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(38 weeks after the first day of the last normal menstrual period)

• The fetus is about thirteen and one-half (131/2) inches from head to rump.

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By the 25th day, the heart begins to beat
A pregnant woman may notice her first missed menstrual period at the end of the second week after conception, or about four weeks after the first day of her last normal period.

There are different kinds of urine tests for pregnancy. Some may not be accurate for up to three weeks, or five weeks after the first day of your last normal period.

These methods require a prescription from your doctor. Be sure to discuss possible side effects and risks with your doctor or other health care worker.

More information

A woman must get a prescription from a doctor. Follow doctor’s instructions. This method is effective between 97% and 99.9% of the time.

A woman must get her own cap from a doctor. Follow doctor’s instructions. This method is effective between 82% and 94% of the time.

A woman must get her own diaphragm from a doctor. Follow doctor’s instructions. This method is effective between 82% and 94% of the time.

The IUD must be inserted by a doctor. Follow doctor’s instructions. This method is effective between 97% and 99.2% of the time.

Must be placed by a doctor. Follow doctor’s instructions. This method is effective 99% of the time.

Outpatient surgery must be done by a doctor. This method is effective between 99.6% and 99.9% of the time.

Source: Contraceptive Technology, 1990-92, Robert A. Hatcher, M.D. et al
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