

WHAT HAPPENS IN EARLY PREGNANCY?

Pregnancy is a life-changing journey for mothers. For the little ones forming inside the womb, life has only just begun.

Babies grow rapidly in these early months of pregnancy. Their hearts begin beating within four weeks of pregnancy.



When you listen to your baby's heart for the first time, you'll hear it beat up to 110 times a minute.

Sadly, so many of these heartbeats are cut short. Out of the 70 000 abortions held in Australia every year, 91 per cent of these are performed within the first 14 weeks of pregnancy—the first 14 weeks of a child's life.

The first few months

WEEK 4

The fertilised egg grows, and the amniotic sac fills with fluid, surrounding and cushioning the embryo. The placenta forms and helps transport nutrients to the baby and wastes from the baby. At four weeks, we can see the beginnings of a little face—mouth, jaw, throat, the shape of eyes—and the heart begins to beat.

The human heart begins to beat just 22 days after conception.

WEEKS 8-10

All of the baby's tiny features continue to develop: Bone starts to replace cartilage, limbs, fingers, eyes and toes take their shape. With its brain and central nervous system already formed and functional, the baby's head looks large compared to the rest of its body.

This tiny human—who is only the size of a fig—now possesses an active, growing brain.

WEEKS 12-14

When the baby reaches 12 weeks, it has grown through the most vital stage of development. At 14 weeks, the baby has developed arms, hands, fingers, feet and toes. Tiny fingernails, toenails, teeth and hair are still forming. The baby can squint, grasp with its hand and maybe even suck its thumb.

Now you can see the delicate surface of the baby's parchment-thin skin on an ultrasound.

We want you to have all the facts.

The first few months of pregnancy can be life-changing and life-giving. But for some women, pregnancy may not be part of their plan.

In these early weeks, it can be hard to make an informed decision about pregnancy. Our goal is to provide you with all the facts so you can make an informed choice about your pregnancy.

**See all the facts and
find real support today.**

Pregnancy Help Australia
24/7 phone counselling
1300 792 798 (QLD, NSW, VIC, ACT)
1300 655 156 (SA, WA, NT, TAS)
www.pregnancysupport.com.au

www.notbornyet.com/real-information