

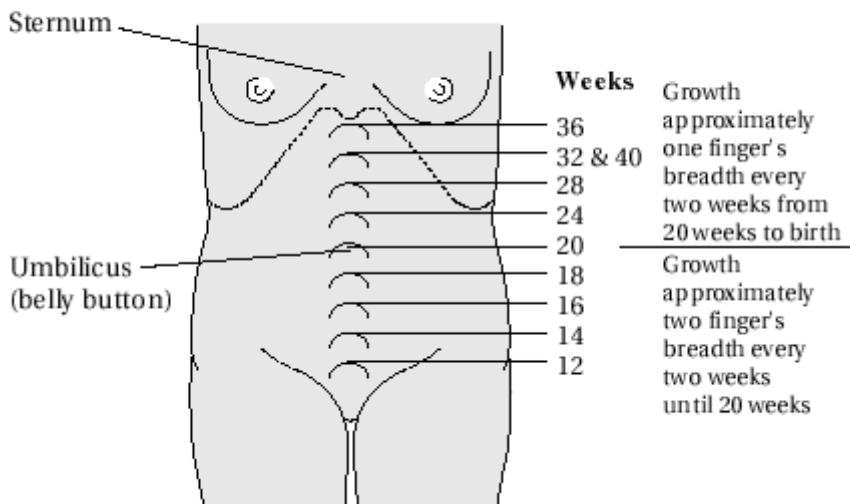
Our TTC Journey

Week 34 – July 4th – July 10th, 2008



Your baby's crown-to-rump length this week is approximately 12.8 inches and the total length is around 19.8 inches at this time. Your baby now weighs almost 5 pounds. From your bellybutton, it is about 5.6 inches to the top of your uterus. Measurements of your uterus vary from woman to woman. You should not worry if you do not measure the exact same as your pregnancy friends or family members as long as you are growing appropriately. When your uterus grows and gets larger at an appropriate rate, it shows that your baby is growing well inside of your uterus.

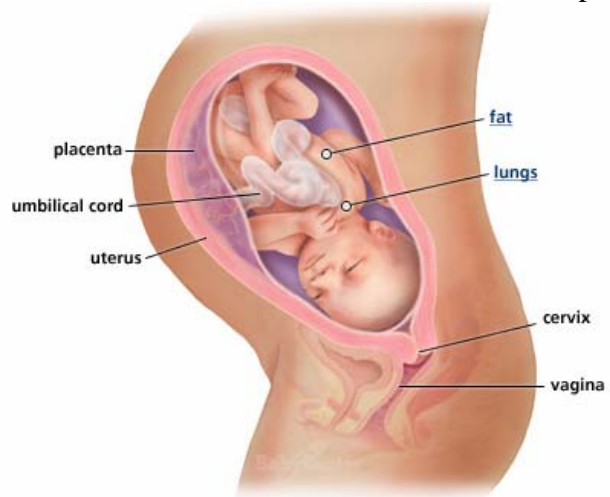
Growth of the womb during pregnancy



Braxton-Hicks contractions are going to get stronger and more frequent within the next few weeks. Braxton-Hicks contractions feel like a tightening at the top of your uterus that spreads down and then relaxes.

Many women mistake Braxton-Hicks contractions for true labor contractions, but this is rarely the case. Braxton-Hicks contractions will diminish if you get up and walk around and they should not be painful.

Your baby's hair continues to get longer and thicker. Your baby's hair color probably is not going to be the same color from birth onwards, so you should expect it to change in color. Your baby is shedding most of lanugo, but the amount of vernix caseosa is increasing. Your baby is taking calcium from you to lay down lots of bone. Continue to take your prenatal vitamins and drink milk to ensure that you receive enough calcium.



If you were to deliver your baby now, it would probably be called a pre-term infant instead of premature. The only difference is in the maturity, particularly lung maturity. A pre-term baby is less likely to need intensive care because its lungs have developed. Doctors can test lung maturity with an amniocentesis that checks levels of surfactant.

The baby now rests on your uterus and is no longer floating. Fingernails now reach over the finger tips and the baby can scratch itself.

July 4 – Last night we had our breastfeeding class. I learned a lot from the class such as how to know he's getting enough milk, how to prevent engorgement and clogged ducts. I also learned that since I'm on the fluffier side, a My Breast Friend pillow is much better for me than a boppy. I also feel the baby move very often on some days, but not very often on other days. So I just think of it as that he's feeling more energetic some days, like his mother!



Beanlette's Corner

July 5 – We walked around some stores today and I just really felt that the baby weighs 100 lbs now. My stomach gets hard to drag around sometimes. Its amazing how I'm not falling over more. The walking was good, and my groin didn't hurt while walking. Just laying down, like normal, that's what hurts!

July 6 – So we had some furniture drama !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I was going to get the crib and stuff after the baby was born. Well change of plans. The store I fell in love with is going out of business. That leaves King Bambino and USA Baby to serve our baby furniture needs.

I called USA Baby. I asked them if they could order the furniture I loved (Muniere, Antigua collection). They said sure It'll be 8-12 weeks to order, and with delivery it'll cost \$3400. I fell to the floor and freaked out !!! (DH had to calm me down, cause the closing store would've charged \$2000)

I called King Bambino ... but they were closed on Sundays. Who closes on Sundays???? OMG anyhow, then I called the store that's closing and asked if they were open.

They said they were open, and were selling all of their floor models, and while they don't have the Muniere collection anymore, they do have the BonaVita furniture brand in their store, and that they had 5 collections or so that we could look at. One of them, the Cabana collection, looks A LOT like the Antigua collection. But its first come first served, and they've marked down all of their furniture.

Sooooooooooooo DH and I race to their store, and they don't have the crib I loved They did have the Cabana collection and it was nice, but they only had the crib and the dresser. So I'd still have to call USA Baby to order the Armoire and Hutch attachment. Ugh! USABaby was on my list !!! I didn't want to give them my business.



So we wandered around the store, and we found the BonaVita brand Sheffield collection. It was nice, and they had all 4 pieces for \$1500 !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! So we could get the crib, the armoire, the dresser and hutch for 25% off the original price! And with delivery, its still cheaper than what I thought we'd have to pay! I had budgeted \$2000 for the nursery furniture.

So long story into a novel we purchased the furniture, and it will be delivered this week! Soooooooooooooo you all may see a nursery picture after all, even though I'm not doing any theme, just using pastel bedding.

I've scanned a copy of the brochure and put it into the blog. The red arrows show the furniture and the wood finish we've purchased. Its lovely and will last till he's old and grey. Whew, ok I'm overwhelmed now!

July 7 – The NST was a breeze. They were delayed because there was one mommy who was admitted at her NST appt. Soooooooooooooooooooooo I didn't get in the chair till later. Anyhoo, they did an amniotic fluid profile on me first. They checked his fluid (and he's still a boy), and normal is 8-24, my fluid level was 14. So woohoo! Then I went to this other chair and they strap the monitors on me and I sat there and looked at a beautiful baseline. James didn't move at all !!! So some cold water and a few minutes later ... nothing! Nope, that didn't wake him up either! LOL

Soooooooooooooo she came into the room with the buzzing noise maker. It felt like a vibrating massager, it tickled, but WOW he squirmed in response to that !!!!!!!!!!!!!!! LOL He was woken from his slumber, which serves him right because he was playing for 2 hours straight last night! So I am a little cranky.

On my back they took my BP twice. 140/80 both times. ARRRRRRRRG! My BP isn't ever that high.

So they rolled me to my side 110/60 !!

Taaa daaah! I go in Thursday again for another NST. And then again on Monday, and then again on next Thursday.

The NST just measures his baseline heartbeat, and then the increased heartbeat as he moves. Then they want to watch it calm back down. Then spike again when he wiggles, then watch it calm back down. He tested beautifully!

Oh and its confirmed his head is DOWN !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

July 8 – Today at work was another dreadfully busy day. I think yesterday was the worst day at work because I was in the NST appt for so long, I had to get all of my work done in a short amount of time. I just feel that the boss still thinks that we're "not busy" and I resent that. I think she's a horrible manager for not backfilling the position. Anyhow, I can't wait for the real phone guy to return from vacation. This is a horrid position he put me in.

July 9 – Work really sucks. I've decided that my last day in the office will be July 25th. I cannot wait to just leave so that I can concentrate on getting ready for the baby. Being busy and yelled at like this isn't my idea of a fun day.

July 10 – I had another NST appointment today. This one went well. I didn't have to do the amniotic fluid profile today. And James moved all around again, and was active in just the right amounts, so I wasn't in the chair that long. I keep wondering when real labor is going to arrive. Each contraction I now look at the time and see if they're getting close together, because any one now could be the real start of labor. Its exciting and a little overwhelming! I'm so glad I took tomorrow off, because there are lots of things I need to get done before the shower this weekend.