


# Fetal Development

A female's egg is fertilized by a male's sperm in the fallopian tube. After fertilization, the egg divides and multiplies to form the embryo. During the next few days, the embryo moves through the fallopian tube to the lining of the uterus. There it implants and starts to grow.

During pregnancy, the lining of the female's uterus thickens and its blood vessels enlarge to nourish the fetus. As pregnancy progresses, the uterus expands to make room for the growing embryo/fetus. The following pictures and drawings illustrate fetal development from 8 to 40 weeks.



### 8 WEEKS

1 1/2 inches — 1/2 ounce

The beginnings of all key body parts are present, although they are not completely positioned in their final locations.

Structures that will form eyes, ears, arms and legs are identifiable.

Muscles and skeleton are developing and the nervous system becomes more responsive.

The heart has four chambers and began pumping blood four weeks ago.

