

# Your Baby's Movements Matter



## Why are my baby's movements important?

If your baby's movement pattern changes, it may be a sign that they are unwell. Around half of women who had a stillbirth noticed their baby's movements had slowed down or stopped.

## How often should my baby move?

*There is no set number of normal movements.*

You should get to know your baby's own unique pattern of movements.

Babies' movements can be described as anything from a kick or a flutter, to a swish or a roll.

You will start to feel your baby move between weeks 16 and 24 of pregnancy, regardless of where your placenta lies.



## What should I do?

In **ANY INSTANCE**, if you are concerned about a change in your baby's movements, contact your doctor or midwife **IMMEDIATELY. YOU ARE NOT WASTING THEIR TIME.**

## What may happen next?

Your doctor or midwife should ask you to come into your maternity unit (staff are available 24 hours, 7 days a week). Investigations may include:

- Checking your baby's heartbeat
- Measuring your baby's growth
- Ultrasound scan
- Blood test



It is **NOT TRUE** that babies move less towards the end of pregnancy.



You should **CONTINUE** to feel your baby move right up to the time you go into labour and whilst you are in labour too.



If you are concerned about your baby's movements, having something to eat or drink to stimulate your baby **DOES NOT WORK.**