

## Listen to Baby's Heartbeat

Of all the amazing experiences you'll have during pregnancy, the first time you hear your baby's heartbeat is one of the best. Your baby's heart starts to beat at just six weeks, but you won't be able to hear it for another couple of weeks. After eight weeks, you should get a chance to listen to your baby's heart beating when you have an antenatal appointment at The Birth Company. It's important for us to check your baby's heart, but we know it's also an exciting and reassuring moment for you.

- We usually arrange an ultrasound scan with each antenatal appointment. You should be able to see and hear the heartbeat at every scan after eight weeks.
- We may also use a handheld heartbeat monitor to check on your baby during the appointment. It is a special type of ultrasound that is used to listen to foetal hearts.
- It is also possible to pick up your baby's heartbeat with a stethoscope, but it can be tricky to hear it over all the other sounds in your body.

Your baby's heartbeat is much faster than your own. It will sound like a rushing, fluttering noise that has been compared to the hooves of tiny galloping horses.

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