Does the baby have head lag when gently pulled to sit from supine?

* At two months, babies still demonstrate head lag; however, they may demonstrate occasional attempts to lift the head.
* At four months, babies should begin to assist in the maneuver by pulling with their arms.  The head should no longer lag, as baby should demonstrate anti-gravity, symmetrical flexor muscle control and antigravity righting. They should be able to keep their head in line with their body and demonstrate a good chin tuck.
* At six months, babies actively participate in pull-to-sit and are able to control their heads against gravity to lift from the surface and flex forward.

Are the baby’s hands fisted or un-fisted?

* At two months, baby’s hands are still loosely fisted most of the time. The fingers will open involuntarily when the baby flexes her wrist.
* At four months, babies should be able to voluntarily open hands to grasp toys on their own and have their hands open most of the time.
* At six months, babies should open and close hands voluntarily and functionally for play and feeding, and at rest, hands should be neutral.

Does the baby turn his head to visually follow an object?

* At two months, baby can briefly focus vision at midline and track using eye/head together from midline to the side/side to midline with emerging ability to track across midline for very motivating objects.
* At four months baby can visually track objects with just her eyes, without moving her head. Tracking is possible downward as well as side to side.
* At six months, babies can visual track objects with eyes in all visual planes, and they are beginning to functionally coordinate reach with vision as well as adjust the motor plan in anticipation for reaching a familiar toy based on past experiences, informed by vision first.

In prone does the baby weight-bear on forearms?

* At two months babies can lift their heads about 45 degrees from a surface, with the chest as the point of contact. They will try to use their arms to push up, but are unable to assume weight-bearing position through forearms.
* At four months, babies can weight bear on their forearms in prone with their head held at 90 degrees extension while in midline. Babies can occasionally weight bear through extended arms for brief periods of time.
* At six months babies can push up on extended arms in prone, and can even push up to raise the trunk away from the floor. While babies are capable of the push up position, the six month old will still spend most time in forearm weight bearing, as this is a more functional position for babies to use their hands to manipulate objects.

When horizontally suspended does the baby lift his head and elevate his legs?​

* By 6 months of age, the baby should extend the spine so that their eyes are looking slightly below but close to the horizontal.  If baby collapse into an upside down “U” shape it may indicate hypotonia.

What is your baby’s head circumference?

* [Birth to 24 Months: Boys Weight-for-length and Head circumference-for-age percentiles](http://www.healthychildren.org/Documents/tips-tools/Growth%20Charts/birth_24_months_boys_head_circumference.pdf)
* [Birth to 24 Months: Girls Weight-for-length and Head circumference-for-age percentiles](http://www.healthychildren.org/Documents/tips-tools/Growth%20Charts/birth_24_months_girls_head_circumference.pdf)

Does the baby turn to your voice?

* At two months, a baby may turn head or eyes slowly towards a sound when awake and alert.
* At four months, babies can turn their heads to orient in any direction and begin to look for the source of a sound.
* At six months, babies should consistently orient to sounds because they understand where certain sounds come from. They may be able to turn their entire bodies to investigate such stimuli via rolling or prone pivoting in addition to head and eye responses.

Is the baby able to bring her hands to her mouth?

* At two months babies can move their head and mouth towards one hand or the other when in a prone position and sometimes unilaterally in supine; however, they do not yet bring both hands together to the mouth at midline.
* At four months babies can bring both hands to midline and to the mouth in a supine position. Babies explore their hands with their mouth a lot by 4 months of age. It is important that babies put both hands in their mouth.
* At six months babies can bring both hands to the mouth as well as reach for toys near and far. Early manipulation of objects is possible, though not skilled.

How long does it take your baby to feed, and what is the estimate of amount per feed?

* A four month old baby should feed at least 5 times a day and take a minimum of 20 ounces a day of formula or breast milk. A baby this age will take on average 4 to 6 ounces a feeding, however, some babies may take 8 oz. a feeding, it just depends on the baby. A feeding should take 20 minutes or less. If the baby is taking more than 30 minutes to feed; further evaluation is warranted. Solid foods are started around 4 to 6 months of age. The purpose of solid foods is to help teach the baby how to chew and swallow. If a baby is taking less than 20 ounces of formula or breast milk per day, one of the reasons can be that they are getting too much solid foods.

Does the baby grab onto toys or objects and hold tight?

* At two months babies demonstrate early combination of visual and motor skills with usually just one arm at time, though it is not usually purposeful. A two month old may reach, swipe at, or touch a toy off to one side, but is unable to voluntarily grasp.
* At four months babies can use vision and motor skills of arms in a more coordinated way, but often reach is initially inaccurate. Once one arm makes contact, the other arm finds the object more quickly. Baby can grasp tightly, but does not have good control to release the object vs just dropping it.
* At six months babies can use visual information to adjust reaching purposely for toys. A six month old still lacks graded and isolated control of the hands, so they usually hold an object tightly once the hand has grasped it.

How do these percentiles compare to weight and height?

* There is rapid growth in the first six months of life. A baby should be gaining 5 to 7 ounces per week. Most babies double their birth weight by 6 months of age or sooner. Between birth to 6 months a baby grows on average 1/2 to 1 inch per month. Percentiles of weight and height help to determine the overall trend of feeding and growing.