

Vidya Bhawan Balika Vidyapeeth Lakhisarai

Arun Kumar Gupta

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Uterus:

- It is also called as the womb .
- It is shaped like an **inverted pear**.
- It is attached to the pelvic wall by ligaments .
- The uterus is the part where the embryo develops into the foetus.
- The uterus opens into the vagina through a narrow cervix .
- Uterine wall has three layers of tissues: **perimetrium**, **myometrium** and the **endometrium**
- **Perimetrium:** It is the thin external membranous layer
- **Myometrium:** It is the thick middle layer made up of **smooth muscle**.
It exhibits strong contractions during the delivery of the baby .
- **Endometrium:** It is the inner glandular layer that lines the uterine cavity. It undergoes periodic changes during the menstrual cycle.

Cervix:

- It is a narrow canal connecting the uterus to the vagina
- **Cervical canal:** The cavity of the cervix is called as the cervical canal.
- **Birth canal:** The cervical canal along with the vagina forms the birth canal

External Female Genitalia:

They consist of: **mons pubis** , **labia majora** , **labia minora**, **hymen** and **clitoris** .

Mons pubis: It is a mass of fatty tissue covered by skin and hair

Labia majora: They are fleshy folds of tissue that extend from the mons pubis and cover the vaginal opening .

Labia minora: They are the paired folds of tissue under the labia majora .

Hymen: It is a membrane that partially covers the opening of the vagina. It is often torn during the first **intercourse** or **coitus**.

It can also be broken by active participation in some sports like horseback riding, cycling, etc., a sudden fall or jolt, insertion of a vaginal tampon, etc. In some women the hymen can persist even after coitus. The presence or absence of hymen is not a reliable indication of virginity or sexual experience.

Clitoris: It is a tiny finger-like projection that lies at the junction of the labia minora above the urethral opening.

Draw the sectional view of female reproductive system from NCERT