8 APPENDICULAR MUSCLES

Muscles of the Arms and legs

When studying the arms and legs, it is important to remember the basic vocabulary that will appear many times. It is also valuable to refer to the skeletal system when learning the muscles' names.

- 1. Abduct= to take away (alien abduct you)
- 2. Adduct= to bring back
- 3. Depressor= to bring down (depressed)
- 4. Levator= to bring up (levitate)
- 5. Extend= to increase angle
- 6. Flex= to decrease angle
- 7. Pronate= to put face down
- 8. Supinate= to put face or palm up (hold a bowl of soup)
- 9. Brachi= relating to Branches (arms)
- 10. Origin= connection of muscle to a bone that is not affected by the contraction
- 11. Insertion= where muscle acts to move bone that moves with contraction.
- 12. Pennate= pen shaped
- 13. Labii= Lips
- 14. Ceps= head
- 15. Supra= above
- 16. Infra= below
- 17. Sub= under
- 18. Spinatus= having to do with a spine like projection.
- 19. Pollicis= thumb
- 20. Digit= phalanges
- 21. Oponens= apposes abduction
- 22. Longus= longest one
- 23. Brevis= shortest one (brief)
- 24. Hallucis= big toe

Muscles of the pectoral girdle:

The area called the pectoral girdle is made up of the clavicle, scapula, and humerus. The Clavicle can be palpated from the sternum to the acromion of the Scapula on both a skeleton and volunteer. To aid in orientation, boundaries that make up triangles and visible depressions are vital.

Superficial Muscles of the back which move the arm or shoulder:

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Trapezius	Occipital bone, spinous processes of	Clavicle and scapula	Elevates, retracts, and
	thoracic vertebrae		depresses scapula
Latissimus dorsi	Spinous process of Thoracic and lumbar	Greater tubercle of	Extension, adduction,
	vertebrae	humerus	medial rotation of shoulder
Deltoid	Clavicle and scapula	Deltoid tuberosity	Abduction of shoulder
			Anterior: Flection,
			medial rotation
			Posterior: Extension
			and lateral rotation

1. On the image label structures from the table.

There are many triangles used in the clinical world which can help in orientation. One of the first is a small triangle made up of the Trapezius, with an origin of the occipital bone, the cervical region and ending at T12. Its

insertion is from the scapula at its superior angle and spine to acromion end of the Clavicle (a triangle muscle which touches its counterpart at the spine making a trapezoid). The Trapezium value is not only in its actions, but it is one of the main muscles that stabilizes the scapula.

Inferior to the Trapezium and with an origin of thoracolumbar fascia and the Iliac crest then inserting in the intertubercular groove is the Latissimus dorsi. The last border of this triangle it the medial border of the scapula.

Ask your partner to rotate their arm medial then lateral while you are feeling Latissimus dorsi muscle.

2. When does this muscle contract?

The last superficial muscle of the posterior part of the shoulder is also seen on the anterior side. It originates includes the spine of the scapula following it to the clavicle. It inserts on the Deltoid tuberosity of the shaft on the humerus. This is your deltoid. Feel your partners and tell them to abduct their humerus then let it fall.

3. When did the Deltoid contract?



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Serratus	Anterior superior	Anterior medial border of	Protracts shoulder, rotates scapula
Anterior	margin of ribs 1-9	scapula	so glenoid cavity points up
Pectoralis major	Ribs 2-6, sternum and	Greater tubercle on	Flexion, abduction, and medial
	clavicle	intertubercle sulcus	rotation of shoulder
Pectoralis minor	Ribs 3-6	Coracoid process of scapula	Depresses, protracts shoulder,
			rotates scapula to point glenoid
			cavity inferiorly
Deltoid	Clavicle and scapula	Deltoid tuberosity	See table previous page
Subclavius	First rib	Clavicle	Depresses and protracts shoulder
Coracobrachialis	Coracoid process	Medial margin of humerus	Adduction and flexion of shoulder

Superficial Muscle on the anterior part of the Thorax acting on the shoulder:

In the superficial aspect of the chest, there are many visible structured to help orient yourself. Serratus Anterior is seen in many body builders and boxers and its serrated shape gives it its name. The Serratus Anterior originate at the anterior lateral portion of the ribs (1-8) and inserts on the Medial border of the scapula. The Serratus anterior is important as it is the second muscle that helps stabilize the scapula.

As we look at the Pectoralis minor has an origin of ribs 2-5 and insert on the coracoid process of the scapula. This will cause the scapula to flex. The Subclavian has its origin is costal cartilage of the first rib and inserts on the inferior groove of the clavicle. Superficial to the Pectoralis minor is the Pectoralis major. This again is a muscle easily seen in body builders. Sometimes, one can see a triangle between the pectoralis Major, deltoid and clavicle. This triangle is called the deltopectoral triangle. The last muscle that works on the arm is the Coracobrachialis has its origin on the Coracoid process of the scapula and inserts at the medial surface of the humerus.

It is easy to see that there is a depression around the armpit called the axilla. The posterior border, called the posterior fold, is the Latissimus Dorsi and Serratus Anterior, the anterior border or fold is made up of the pectoralis major and minor.

4. On the image, label the muscles from the table above.



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Levator Scapulae	Spinous process of C1-4	Superior angle of scapula	Elevates scapula
Rhomboid Major	Spinous process of T1-6	Medial border of scapula	Adducts and rotates
		_	glenoid cavity downward
Rhomboid Minor	Spinous process C7-T1	Medial border of scapula	Adducts and rotates
			glenoid cavity downward

Deep muscles of the back which act of the shoulder:

5. On the image provided label the muscles from the previous table:

There are three muscles that insert on the medial border of the scapula. The first originates from the transverse process of the Cervical vertebrae 1-4. Which is called your levator scapulae

Inferior to that muscle are the Rhomboids (diamond shaped) a minor and a major. These originate from the area of C7-T1 and T2-T5 respectively.

Under the Rhomboid muscles, there is a serrated muscle called the Serratus posterior superior. While its function is mostly unknown, some people suggest that it might be used in aiding respiration.

Rotator cuff muscles:

There is a subdivision to the pectoral girdle muscles which are referred to as the rotator cuff muscles. These are four muscles that hold the humerus, and some are named for the location regarding the scapula its processes, all are on the posterior part of the thorax.

The first one is found just above the spine of the scapula within the Supraspinatus fossa. It is called the Supraspinatus muscle. As it is a small deep muscle, it can be neglected in gym exercises, especially when too much weight is used triggering the deltoid to do most of the work. The Supraspinatus muscle originates on the suprascapular fossa and inserts at the Greater tubercle of the humerus. While the muscle can abduct the humerus, it will also keep the glenohumeral joint from dislocation in an inferior direction.

The Infraspinatus muscle, as its name implies, it sits inferior to the spinous process. Its origin is the infraspinatus fossa, and it inserts at



the greater tubercle. This leads it to help pull the humerus backwards and in adduction. While its location keeps the

glenohumeral joint from sliding forward.

In many ways, the Infraspinatus is assisted in supporting the rotator cuff by the Teres minor. The Teres Minor has its origin at the lateral border of the scapula and inserts at the greater tubercle. Its action is to laterally rotate and adduct the humerus.

In the subscapular fossa, we find the last muscle which aids in supporting the rotator cuff. Its name is also based on the location, so the muscle is called the Subscapularis muscle. Its origin is the subscapular fossa, and it inserts in the lesser tubercle of the humerus. Its action is medial rotation of the shoulder, but it also keeps the glenohumeral joint from slipping backwards.

There is an acronym for these four muscles as they spell SItS. You will note that the t for Teres minor is small as it is the minor which is needed to support the rotator cuff. It is important to remember that the glenohumeral joint SItS within four muscles.

Muscles of the Rotator Cuff

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Supraspinatus	Supraspinatus fossa	Greater tubercle of humerus	Abduct shoulder
Infraspinatus	Infraspinatus fossa	Greater tubercle of humerus	Lateral rotation of shoulder
Teres minor	Lateral border of scapula	Greater tubercle of humerus	Lateral rotation and adduction
Subscapularis	Subscapular fossa	Lesser tubercle of humerus	Medial rotation
6. Using the table above, label and color in the posterior muscles of the rotator cuff be?			

Using the table above, label and color in the posterior muscles of the rotator cuff be?



- 7. What movements might each of the rotator muscles stabilize the glenohumeral joint against?
 - a. Supraspinatus:
 - b. Infraspinatus
 - c. Teres minor
 - d. Subscapularis
- 8. On the picture provided label the subscapularis muscle

Other Deep posterior muscles that move the shoulder:

Inferior to the infraspinatus muscle with an origin of the posterior surface of the inferior scapular angle is the Teres Major, it attaches to the greater tubercle of the humerus. The Teres major aids in medial rotation of the humerus and extension of the shoulder.

9. Label the Teres Major in both pictures provided.



Muscles found on the anterior brachial region:

There are three muscles that work in synergy to flex the elbow. If a coronal plane is taken from the humerus, the muscles that flex the elbow are found in the anterior aspect of the arm. These are the biceps brachii, the brachialis, and the brachioradialis. Starting superficially, the Biceps brachii has two heads or origins. The short head is on the Coracoid process and the long head is on the supraglenoid tubercle.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Biceps brachii	Short head: coracoid process	Radial tuberosity	Elbow flexion and
	Long head: supraglenoid tubercle		supination
Brachialis	Anterior distal end of humerus	Ulnar tuberosity	flexion
Brachioradialis	Superior aspect of lateral	Lateral aspect of styloid	Flexion
	epicondyle	process of radius	
Pronator teres	Medial epicondyle and coronoid of	Middle of lateral radial	Pronation and flexion
	ulna	surface	
Flexor carpi	Medial epicondyle	Base of 2 nd and 3 rd	Flexion and abduction at
radialis		metacarpals	wrist
Palmaris longus	Medial epicondyle	Palmar aponeurosis	Flexion of wrist
Flexor carpi	Medial epicondyle	Pisiform, hamate, and base	Flexion and adduction of
ulnaris		of 5 th metacarpal	wrist

Superficial Muscles of the anterior aspect of the arm:

On the medial epicondyle, from what is known as the common flexor tendon, there are four muscles. One runs lateral to the radius and inserts at the lateral part of the midshaft of the radius. This is the Pronator Teres which will rotate the hand so that the palm is posterior. Immediately medial to the Pronator teres, running to the radius to insert at the base of the third metacarpal is the flexor carpi radialis. Medial from the Flexor carpi radialis is a muscle that

attaches to the fascia of the palm past the Transverse Carpal Ligament called the Palmaris longus. It is interesting that Palmaris brevis is within the TCL and is cut in Carpal Tunnel release. Medial to that is the flexor carpi ulnaris which runs from the common flexor tendon to the base of the 5th metacarpal.

A way to study the superficial muscles of the anterior aspect of the forearm is to place a thumb on the medial epicondyle and make the other four fingers point to the wrist. The index finger would be over the pronator teres, the middle finger should be over the flexor carpi radialis, the ring follows the palmaris longus, and the pinky should be close to the flexor carpi ulnaris.

10. On the images provided, label the muscles from the previous table:



It is easy to see an indentation in the anterior aspect of the elbow near where the forearm begins. This indentation is called the Antecubital fossa. You can press into your own fossa and feel the muscles that make the borders of it. On the medial border, you find the Pronator Teres while the brachioradialis in on the lateral border.

11. On the picture above, label the antecubital fossa.

Deep muscles of the anterior forearm:

Just deep to the Pronator Teres, flexor carpi radialis, flexor carpi ulnaris, and Palmaris longus are the Flexor digitorum superficialis. It originates at the medial epicondyle and inserts at the middle phalanges. Deep to the Flexor Digitorum Superficialis are the Flexor digitorum profundus has its origin on the anterior medial surface of the ulna and inserts at the distal phalanges 2-5. There is a condition known as "trigger finger" where the normal smooth movement of the flexor of the finger is interrupted momentarily then the finger snaps to flexion. Lateral to Flexor Digitorum Superficialis is the flexor pollicis longus that originates at the lateral epicondyle of the humerus.

The eight tendons of the flexor digiti and the tendon of the flexor pollicis longus cross the carpals. The tendons are held in place by the Transverse Carpal Ligament, or Flexor Retinaculum. With the bones of the wrist, this ligament forms the carpal tunnel. The deepest muscle is square shaped and originates on the distal end of the ulna and inserts at the distal end of the Radius. It is your Pronator quadratus. On the lateral epicondyle you find the origin of the supinator muscle inserts on the proximal end of the radius.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Flexor digitorum superficialis	Medial epicondyle	Base of middle phalanges 2-5	Flexion
Flexor digitorum profundus	Medial surface of ulna	Base of distal phalanges 2-5	Flexion
Flexor pollicis longus	Anterior shaft of radius	Base of distal phalanx 1	Flexion of thumb
Pronator Quadratus	Anteromedial surface ulna	Anterolateral surface radius	pronation

Deep anterior muscles of the forearm:

12. On the images provided label the muscles from the table above



- 13. Feel the anterior aspect of your forearm and make a fist then open it and open it again. When do these muscles contract?
- 14. Why does the arrangement of the flexor digitorums make them prone to "trigger finger"?

Superficial muscles of the posterior aspect of the arm:

The posterior aspect of the arm, the extensors of the elbow. These include the anconeus and the triceps brachii. As the triceps brachii is so large, many people miss the Anconeus. Tri means three and ceps means heads, it means that the Triceps brachii has three origins. The long head (longest one) is in the infraglenoid tubercle, lateral most is the lateral head on the lateral side of the humerus and the medial head is inferior to the radial groove, on the medial side of the humerus. The little anconeus originates from the lateral epicondyle. Both muscles insert onto the Olecranon.

muscles of the posterior	aspect of ann.		
Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Triceps		Olecranon process	Extension
Long head	Infraglenoid tubercle of scapula	_	
Lateral head	Superior lateral margin of humerus		
Medial head	Inferior to Radial groove of humerus		
Anconeus	Posterior of lateral epicondyle of the	Olecranon and ulnar	Extension
	humerus	shaft	

Muscles of the posterior aspect of arm:

15. On the image provided, label the Triceps Brachii and Anconeus.



Muscles of the posterior aspect of the forearm

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Extensor carpi radialis			
Longus	Lateral supracondylar ridge	Base of 2 nd metacarpal	Extension and
Brevis	Lateral epicondyle	Base of 3 rd metacarpal	abduction
Extensor carpi ulnaris	Lateral epicondyle	Base of 5 th metacarpal	Extension and
-	· ·	-	adduction
Extensor digitorum	Lateral epicondyle	Base of distal phalanx 2-	Extension
_		5	
Supinator	Lateral epicondyle	Anterolateral radius	Supination
Extensor digiti minimi	Lateral epicondyle	Proximal phalanx 5 th	Extension
	· ·	digit	
Extensor indicis	Posterior surface of ulna	Proximal phalanx 2 nd	Extension
		digit	
Extensor pollicis Longus	Posterior lateral ulna	Base of distal phalanx 1	Extends thumb
" " Brevis	Shaft distal radius	Base proximal phalanx 1	
Abductor policies longus	Proximal posterior of ulna and radius	1 st metacarpal	Abduction of
	_	_	thumb

Muscles of the posterior forearm are named by action and insertion and anatomical sites. Most of the posterior muscles will originate at the lateral epicondyle except for those muscles that extend the small finger and thumb. When dealing with the fingers, we have names for each, the first digit is the pollicis while the index is the indices and little finger is minimi. Besides the extensors, there are two muscles that abduct the thumb called the abductor pollicis longus and brevis. The tendons of the abductor pollicis muscles form an important anatomical landmark called the Anatomical Snuff box. This is the area where the Scaphoid bone can be found and if someone has severe pain in this area, it is probable that they have a scaphoid fracture even if it does not appear to be broken in X-ray.



16. On the images, label the muscles from the table of the posterior forearm (previous table)

17. Label the anatomical snuff box in the picture above.

Muscles of hand are the interossei either dorsal or palmar but note the names of the thenar and hypothenar muscles as well. In those areas you have muscles which work on exclusively on the thumb and smallest digit. This is why grip strength significantly decreases when the fingers on the ulnar side are excluded. In the muscles of the hand we see that any muscle with the word Pollicis in its name is related to the thumb while minimi is the smallest digit.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Abductor pollicis brevis	Scaphoid, trapezium,	Proximal phalanx 1 st digit	Abduction
	Transverse carpal ligament		
Flexor pollicis brevis	Trapezium, capitate, 1 st	Proximal phalanx 1 st digit	Flexion
	metacarpal		
Adductor pollicis	Metacarpal and carpals	Proximal phalanx 1 st digit	Adduction
Opponens pollicis	Trapezium and transverse	Proximal phalanx 1 st digit	Flexion of
	carpal ligament		carpometacarpal joint

Muscles of the Thenar Eminence:

Muscles of the Hypothenar:

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Abductor digiti minimi	Pisiformis	Proximal phalanx 5 st digit	Abduction
Flexor digiti minimi brevis	Hamate	Proximal phalanx 5 st digit	Flexion 5 th digit
Opponens digiti minimi	Hamate	Proximal phalanx 5 st digit	Flexion of carpometacarpal joint

18. Using the two tables, draw and label the muscles of the Thenar and Hypothenar Eminences on the images provided.



Muscles of the Anterior aspect of the thigh:

Between the anterior spine of the ileum and the pubic tubercle runs a ligament known as the inguinal ligament. There is an important triangle that uses this as a border called the femoral triangle. Its borders also include the Sartorius and adductor longus. The superior border of the femoral triangle is the inguinal ligament. As you look at the inguinal ligament you will find a canal leading from the abdominal area to the femoral triangle. This is an area, when under increased intra-abdominal pressure, part of the intestine can herniate out of here. This is what is called a femoral hernia.

Inside the femoral triangle there are two muscles, the iliopsoas which is composed of the iliacus and Psoas major and the Pectineus. Medial to this triangle we can see the Gracialis muscle. Inferior and lateral to the femoral triangle we can find the quadriceps group.

As Quatri means four and ceps is head, the Quadriceps is composed of four heads and one insertion. The four muscles that make up the quadriceps femoris are the Rectus Femoris, which runs straight from the Anterior Superior Iliac Spine (ASIS) to the Tibial tuberosity. The other three muscles form a V-shape which are called the Vastus for vast or huge. These three muscles are Vastus lateralis, is lateral to the Rectus Femoris, Vastus medialis, medial to the Rectus femoris, and Vastus intermedius just under the Rectus femoris. Lateral to the quadriceps group we can find the Tensor Fascae Latae which is part of the Gluteal group.

Under the Pectineus muscle within the Femoral triangle, one can find other important muscles. One of these is the Adductor brevis. Also deep to the adductor longus, one can see the Obturator externus which originates at the border of the Obturator foramen and inserts at the trochanteric fossa. Lateral to the Gracialis and posterior to the adductor longus and brevis is the Adductor magnus.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Adductor longus	Inferior ramus of pubis	Linea aspera	Adduction, flexion and medial rotation
Sartorius	ASIS	Medial surface of tibia	Flexion of knee and hip, abduction, and
			lateral rotation of hip
Iliopsoas	Iliac fossa and T12-L5	Lesser trochanter	Flexion of hip and lumbar joints
	transverse process		
Pectineus	Superior ramus of pubis	Pectineal line of femur	Adduction and flexion
Adductor magnus	Inferior ramus of pubis	Linea aspera and	Adduction, flexion, extension and
		adductor tubercle	medial rotation of hip
Gracialis	Inferior ramus of pubis	Medial surface of	Flexion and medial rotation of knee and
		tibial condyle	hip, adduction of hip
Tensor fascia latae	Iliac crest	Iliotibial tract	Abduction, medial rotation of hip and
			knee, extension of knee
Rectus femoris	ASIS and Superior	Tibial tuberosity via	Extension of knee, flexion of hip
	acetabular ring	quadriceps tendon	
Vastus lateralis	Anteroinferior to greater	Tibial tuberosity via	Extension of knee, flexion of hip
	trochanter	quadriceps tendon	
Vastus Medialis	Linea aspera	Tibial tuberosity via	Extension of knee, flexion of hip
		quadriceps tendon	
Vastus intermedius	Linea aspera	Tibial tuberosity via	Extension of knee, flexion of hip
		quadriceps tendon	

Muscles seen in the anterior aspect of thigh:

19. Label the muscles from the table above found on the image.

20. Draw the borders of the femoral triangle

Posterior muscles of the thigh:

On the posterior aspect of the leg, you can feel the iliac crest which is the hip bone. In that area you find the large gluteal muscles which make up the gluteal region. The largest of the Gluteal muscles is the gluteus maximus. Deep to the Gluteus Maximus are the Gluteus medius and minimus which is deep to the medius.

With the Gluteus maximus removed, many other muscles become visible in that region. Just inferior to the Gluteus Medius, are the Piriformis, then the Superior Gemellus, the Obturator internus, inferior gemellus and the Quadratus femoris. One Acronym which students have told me they have used to memorize the location of the deep muscles has been GPS OIQ (GPS zerO IQ) so moving superior to inferior we have Gluteus Medius, Piriformis, Superior Gemellus, Obturator internus, Inferior Gemellus and Quadratus Femoris.

As the Sciatic nerve passes between the Piriformis muscle and the Superior Gemellus it can sometimes be compressed by the muscles leading to the symptoms of sciatica. This is called "Piriformis syndrome" and is usually a result of activities which cause the muscle to enlarge. The treatment is usually rest and ice, but many other treatments seem to work.

21. If you are told to give an injection IM (intramuscular) and feel the iliac crest and go posterior by 1/3 and inferior by the same distance, what muscle are you injecting?



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Gluteus Maximus	Iliac crest, posterior gluteal line,	Iliotibial tract and gluteal	Extension, lateral rotation,
	sacrum and coccyx	tuberosity	abduction of hip
Gluteus Medius	Iliac crest and middle gluteal line	Greater trochanter	Abducts and medial
			rotation of hip
Gluteus minimus	Above inferior gluteal line	Greater trochanter	Abducts and medial
			rotation of hip
Piriformis	Anteriolateral surface of sacrum	Greater trochanter	Lateral rotation and
			abduction of hip
Superior Gemellus	Ischial spine	Greater trochanter	As above
Obturator interus	Borders of obturator foramen	Greater trochanter	As above
Inferior Gemellus	Ischial tuberosity	Greater trochanter	As above
Quadratus femoris	Lateral border of ischial tuberosity	Intertrochanteric crest	Lateral rotation of hip

Muscles of the Gluteal area:

22. Label the muscles from the table above on the image provided:



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Biceps Femoris	Ischial tuberosity and linea	Head of fibula lateral	Flex knee lateral rotation
_	aspera	condyle of tibia	of hip
Semimembranosus	Ischial tuberosity	Medial condyle of tibia	Flex knee, medial rotation
			of hip
Semitendinosus	Ischial tuberosity	Medial surface of tibia	As above

Hamstrings muscle group:

The hamstrings group is formed from most muscles the flex the knee. Many of these muscles begin in the gluteal region and work down the knee. They form the superior borders of the popliteal fossa. While not part of the hamstrings group, there is one other muscle that flexes the knee. It is found on the distal end of the femur, with its origin at the lateral condyle of the femur and the insertion being the posterior surface of the Tibial shaft is the popliteus muscle.

One muscle which can be seen on the posterior aspect of the thigh is the Adductor magnus. It is located medial to the semitendinosus, superior to the semimembranosus and inferior to the Gluteus Maximus. Its origin is the inferior ramus of pubis, and it inserts at the linea aspera and adductor tubercle. As its name implies its major action is adduction but it also aids in flexion, extension, and medial rotation of hip.

- 23. Label the muscles from table above:
- 24. Label the Adductor Magnus
- 25. Draw the borders of the Popliteal fossa.

From the hamstrings muscle group, there are things you can do to palpate on your body. At the superior lateral aspect of the popliteal fossa is the biceps femoris which can be followed as it runs up the femur. You can also feel the superior medial border of the popliteal fossa with a bent knee and put pressure so to extend the knee. This will lead to the tendon of the semitendinosus to become tight and palpable.

- 26. Which muscle forms the superior lateral border of the popliteal fossa?
- 27. Which muscle forms the Superior medial border of the popliteal fossa?
- 28. On the image provided label the plantaris and Gastrocnemius muscles.

Posterior inferior aspect of the leg

Passing the popliteal fossa, we find many muscles which plantar or dorsi flex the foot and toes. The most visible of these muscles is the Gastrocnemius which means stomach in Greek. It is the inferior medial border of the popliteal fossa. Lateral and superior to the gastrocnemius, we can find a small muscle named the Plantaris muscle. Together, the Gastrocnemius and Plantaris make the inferior border of the of the popliteal fossa.



It is important to note that many of the muscles of the posterior aspect of the lower leg aid in stability of walking. This is important in understanding as weakness or overuse of certain muscles can lead to injury.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Gastrocnemius	Femoral condyles	Calcaneus via ligament	Plantar flexion and flex knee
Soleus	Head of fibula, medial shaft of tibia	Calcaneus via ligament	Plantar flexion
Plantaris	Lateral Supracondylar ridge	Calcaneus	Plantar and knee flexion
Fibularis longus	Head and shaft of fibula	Medial cuneiforms	Eversion of foot and plantar
_		and 1 st metatarsal	flexion
Fibularis brevis	Mid-lateral margin of fibula	5 th metatarsal	Eversion and plantar flexion

Plantar	flexors	superficial
I IMIICAL	nenoro	ouperneta

29. On the images provided label the muscles in the table above:



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action	
Tibialis posterior	Interosseous membrane	Navicular, cuneiforms, and 2-4	Inversion and plantar	
_		metatarsals	flexion	
Flexor digitorum longus	Posteromedial tibia	Distal phalanx 2-5	Flexion of toes	
Flexor hallicis longus	Posterior fibula	Distal phalanx 1 toe	Flexion of big toe	

Deep muscles of the inferior posterior aspect of the leg:

30. Label the muscles from the table above on the picture provided:

- 31. Label the fibularis longus and brevis
- 32. Label the popliteus muscle
- 33. What does the word hallicis refer to?
- 34. What does Digitorum tell you?

When dealing with the deep muscles of the posterior aspect of the lower leg, one finds certain names which tell you how the muscle will function as well as on which part of the foot. This tends to be seen in all anatomical names. It becomes apparent that a Flexor will flex, an adductor will adduct, and an abductor will abduct.

Anterior aspect of the lower leg:

When one is looking at the anterior aspect of the lower leg, one finds that most of the muscles located there will have the function of extension or dorsi flexion of the foot. Just like the posterior aspect, there are names which tell you how a muscle will act.

- 35. What would an extensor do?
- 36. What does Longus tell you about a muscle?

The anterior aspect of the lower leg is the Tibialis anterior. This muscle is an antagonist to the Tibialis posterior discussed earlier. Looking at the Tibialis Anterior we find that its origin is the lateral condyle and proximal shaft of tibia and inserts at the base of the first metacarpal and the medial cuneiform bone. This will give it the action of dorsiflexion and will aid in inversion of the foot.

Lateral to the Tibialis Anterior is the extensor hallucis longus followed by the Extensor Digitorum longus. The Extensor Hallucis longus has its origin at anterior surface of the fibula and inserts, as its name implies, at the distal phalanx of the 1st toe. Again, as it is called the Extensor Hallucis, it causes extension of the big toe. This is aided by a smaller muscle which originates at the calcaneus called the Extensor hallucis brevis.

The last muscle of this group is the Extensor digitorum longus which originates at the anterior surface of the fibula and the lateral condyle of the tibia and inserts at the phalanx of toes 2-5 to cause extension. This is aided by the extensor digitorum brevis.



With the information provided, fill out the following table:

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Tibialis anterior			
Extensor			
digitorum longus			
Extensor	Calcaneus	Middle phalanx 2-5	
digitorum brevis		_	
Extensor hallucis			
longus			
Extensor hallicus	Calcaneus	Proximal phalanx 1	
brevis		_	

37. On the images label the muscles from the table above:



Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Flexor hallucis brevis	Cuboid and lateral	1 st Proximal phalanx	Flexes 1 st MTP joint
	cuneiform		
Abductor hallucis	Calcaneus	1 st proximal phalanx	Adduction at MTP joint
Flexor digitorum brevis	Cuboid and lateral	2-5th middle phalanx	Flexes PIP joint 2-5
	cuneiform	_	
Abductor digiti minimi	Calcaneus	5 th proximal phalanx	Abduct and flex 5th MIP joint
Flexor digiti minimi brevis	Base of 5 th metatarsal	5 th proximal phalanx	Flex 5 th MIP joint

Superficial Muscles of the plantar section of the foot:

38. Draw in and label the muscles of the table above:



It is easy to see that most muscles of the foot are on the plantar side. In many ways this arrangement is identical to the hand. These muscles are also layered with the most superficial layers covering the deeper layers in a way which makes it hard to see all the muscles of the foot at once. It is simple to see that most of these muscles are used in either flexion, adduction, abduction or similar movements.

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Quadratus plantae	Calcaneus	Tendon of flexor	Flection of toes 2-5
-		digitorum longus	
Flexor hallucis brevis	Cuboid and lateral	Proximal phalanx 1st toe	Flexion of 1st MTP joint
	cuneiforms	-	
Lumbricals	Tendon of flexor	Distal phalanx 2-5	Flex MTP joint and
	digitorum longus	-	extension of IP joints
Flexor digiti minimi brevis	Metatarsal 5	Proximal phalanx 5	Flex 5th MTP joint

Intermediate muscles of the foot:

39. Draw and label the muscles from the table above on the image provided below:



Deep muscles of the foot:

Muscle	Origin	Insertion	Action
Adductor hallucis	Base of metatarsals 2-5	1 st Proximal phalanx	Flexion of MTP joint of 1st digit
Plantar	Base of metatarsals	Medial sides of toes	Abduction, flexion and extension at MTP
interosseous			joints
Dorsal	Base of metatarsals	Sides of toes	Abduction, flexion and extension at MTP
interosseous			joints

40. On the picture below draw the muscles from the table above:

