

MUSCLES OF HAND

CLASSIFICATION

1. Extrinsic Muscles

 Originate in forearm, insert in hand

◆ Examples:

- Flexor digitorum superficialis
- Flexor digitorum profundus
- Flexor pollicis longus
- Extensor digitorum

 Function:

- Powerful gross movements of hand & fingers

2. Intrinsic Muscles

 Originate & insert within hand

◆ Groups:

- Thenar muscles
- Hypothenar muscles
- Lumbricals
- Interossei
- Adductor pollicis

THENAR MUSCLES (Thumb Muscles)

 Form thenar eminence

◆ Muscles:

- Abductor pollicis brevis
 - Flexor pollicis brevis
 - Opponens pollicis
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◆ Actions:

Muscle	Action
Abductor pollicis brevis	Abduction of thumb
Flexor pollicis brevis	Flexion of thumb
Opponens pollicis	Opposition ★

◆ Nerve Supply:

👉 Median nerve (Recurrent branch) ★

● ADDUCTOR POLLICIS ★

◆ Parts:

- Oblique head
- Transverse head

◆ Action:

- Adduction of thumb

◆ Nerve Supply:

👉 Ulnar nerve (IMPORTANT EXCEPTION ★)

● HYPOTHENAR MUSCLES (Little Finger) 🖐

👉 Form hypothenar eminence

◆ Muscles:

- Abductor digiti minimi
 - Flexor digiti minimi
 - Opponens digiti minimi
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◆ Actions:

- Movement of little finger (abduction, flexion, opposition)
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◆ Nerve Supply:

👉 Ulnar nerve

● LUMBRICALS ★

◆ Number:

👉 4 muscles

◆ Origin:

👉 Tendons of flexor digitorum profundus

◆ Insertion:

👉 Extensor expansion

◆ Action (VERY IMPORTANT ★):

👉 Flex MCP + Extend IP joints

◆ Nerve Supply:

Lumbrical	Nerve
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1st & 2nd	Median nerve
3rd & 4th	Ulnar nerve

INTEROSSEI MUSCLES

 Located between metacarpals

◆ Types:

◆ 1. Dorsal Interossei (4)

 DAB = Dorsal ABduct

◆ 2. Palmar Interossei (3)

 PAD = Palmar ADduct

◆ Actions:

- Abduction & adduction of fingers
- Assist lumbricals (MCP flexion + IP extension)

◆ Nerve Supply:


👉 Ulnar nerve

● SUMMARY TABLE ★

Muscle Group	Function	Nerve
Thenar	Thumb movement	Median

Adductor pollicis	Thumb adduction	Ulnar
Hypothenar	Little finger movement	Ulnar
Lumbricals	Flex MCP, extend IP	Median + Ulnar
Interossei	Abduct/adduct fingers	Ulnar

CLINICAL CORRELATION

- ◆ Ulnar Nerve Injury ("Claw Hand") 
 - Interossei + medial lumbricals lost
 - Loss of finger ab/adduction

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- ◆ Median Nerve Injury ("Ape Thumb") 

- Thenar muscle paralysis
 - Loss of opposition
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◆ Froment's Sign

👉 Indicates ulnar nerve palsy

👉 Patient uses thumb flexion (FPL) instead of adduction

🔥 MUST REMEMBER:

✓ DAB = Dorsal ABduct

✓ PAD = Palmar ADduct

✓ Lumbricals = Flex MCP + Extend IP

✓ Adductor pollicis = Ulnar nerve exception

💡 QUICK RECALL:

- Intrinsic Hand Muscles:

- Thenar → Median
- Hypothenar → Ulnar
- Interossei → Ulnar
- Lumbricals → Mixed

- Function:

- Grip + Fine movements

● INTRINSIC MUSCLES OF THE HAND (DETAILED)

◆ OVERVIEW

👉 Intrinsic muscles = originate & insert within the hand

👉 Responsible for fine movements, precision grip, coordination

CLASSIFICATION

- ◆ 1. Thenar Muscles (Thumb)
 - ◆ 2. Hypothenar Muscles (Little finger)
 - ◆ 3. Lumbricals
 - ◆ 4. Interossei
 - ◆ 5. Palmaris brevis
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THENAR MUSCLES

👉 Form thenar eminence

◆ MUSCLES + DETAILS

◆ 1. Abductor Pollicis Brevis

- Origin: Scaphoid, trapezium, flexor retinaculum
 - Insertion: Base of proximal phalanx of thumb
 - Action: Abduction of thumb
 - Nerve: Median nerve
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◆ 2. Flexor Pollicis Brevis

- Origin: Flexor retinaculum
- Insertion: Base of proximal phalanx
- Action: Flexion of thumb (MCP joint)
- Nerve: Median nerve

◆ 3. Opponens Pollicis ★

- Origin: Flexor retinaculum + trapezium
- Insertion: Shaft of 1st metacarpal
- Action: Opposition of thumb
- Nerve: Median nerve

◆ 4. Adductor Pollicis ★ (EXCEPTION)

- Origin:
 - Oblique head → 2nd & 3rd metacarpals
 - Transverse head → 3rd metacarpal
- Insertion: Base of proximal phalanx of thumb
- Action: Adduction of thumb
- Nerve: Ulnar nerve (deep branch) ★

● SUMMARY (THENAR)

APB → Abduct

FPB → Flex

OP → Oppose

Adductor → Adduct (ULNAR NERVE!)

● HYPOTHENAR MUSCLES ★

👉 Form hypothenar eminence

◆ MUSCLES + DETAILS

◆ 1. Abductor Digiti Minimi

- Origin: Pisiform

- Insertion: Base of proximal phalanx (5th digit)
 - Action: Abduction of little finger
 - Nerve: Ulnar nerve
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◆ 2. Flexor Digiti Minimi Brevis

- Origin: Hook of hamate + flexor retinaculum
 - Insertion: Base of proximal phalanx
 - Action: Flexion of little finger
 - Nerve: Ulnar nerve
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◆ 3. Opponens Digiti Minimi

- Origin: Hook of hamate + flexor retinaculum
- Insertion: Medial border of 5th metacarpal
- Action: Opposition of little finger
- Nerve: Ulnar nerve

● PALMARIS BREVIS

- Origin: Flexor retinaculum + palmar aponeurosis
 - Insertion: Skin of palm
 - Action: Wrinkles skin → improves grip
 - Nerve: Superficial branch of ulnar nerve
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● LUMBRICALS

- Origin: Tendons of flexor digitorum profundus
 - Insertion: Extensor expansion
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◆ Action:

👉 Flex MCP + Extend IP joints ★

◆ Nerve Supply:

Lumbrical	Nerve
1st & 2nd	Median
3rd & 4th	Ulnar

 INTEROSSEI MUSCLES

◆ TYPES

◆ Dorsal Interossei (4)

👉 DAB = Dorsal ABduct

◆ Palmar Interossei (3)

👉 PAD = Palmar ADduct

◆ Action:

- Abduction/adduction of fingers
 - Assist lumbricals
-

◆ Nerve:

👉 Ulnar nerve

CLINICAL CORRELATIONS

- ◆ 1. Median Nerve Injury

- 👉 Thenar muscle paralysis

- 👉 Loss of opposition → Ape thumb deformity

- ◆ 2. Ulnar Nerve Injury ★

- 👉 Interossei + adductor pollicis affected

Signs:

- Claw hand
 - Loss of finger abduction/adduction
 - Positive Froment's sign
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- ◆ 3. Froment's Sign

- 👉 Patient holds paper using thumb

- Normal → Adductor pollicis
 - Ulnar palsy → uses FPL (thumb flexion)
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MUST REMEMBER:

- ✓ Thenar = Median nerve
 - ✓ Hypothenar = Ulnar nerve
 - ✓ Adductor pollicis = Ulnar (exception)
 - ✓ Lumbricals = Flex MCP + Extend IP
 - ✓ DAB / PAD rule
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QUICK RECALL:

- Thenar → Median
- Hypothenar → Ulnar
- Interossei → Ulnar

- Lumbricals → Mixed
 - Function: Fine movements + grip
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LUMBRICALS

◆ GENERAL FEATURES

- Number: 4
 - Unique feature:
 - 👉 Arise from tendons (not bones) ★
 - Located in anterior hand
 - Connect flexor system → extensor system
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◆ ORIGIN

- Tendons of flexor digitorum profundus (FDP)

Type:

- 1st & 2nd: Unipennate
 - 3rd & 4th: Bipennate
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◆ INSERTION

- Extensor expansion (dorsal digital expansion)
 - On radial side of digits 2-5
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◆ ACTION ★ (VERY IMPORTANT)

👉 Flex MCP joints + Extend IP joints

💡 This is a key viva question

◆ NERVE SUPPLY ★

Lumbrical	Nerve
1st & 2nd (lateral)	Median nerve
3rd & 4th (medial)	Ulnar nerve

◆ BLOOD SUPPLY

- Dorsal metacarpal arteries

🔥 CLINICAL NOTE

👉 Loss →

- Clawing of fingers
 - Loss of coordinated finger movement
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INTEROSSEI MUSCLES

◆ TYPES

◆ I. DORSAL INTEROSSEI (4)

- Type: Bipennate
- Location: Between metacarpals

ORIGIN:

- Adjacent sides of metacarpals

INSERTION:

- Proximal phalanges + extensor expansion

ACTION:

👉 Abduct fingers (DAB)

◆ 2. PALMAR INTEROSSEI (3)

ORIGIN:

- Metacarpals (1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th)

INSERTION:

- Proximal phalanges + extensor expansion

ACTION:

👉 Adduct fingers (PAD)

◆ COMMON ACTION (IMPORTANT ★)

● Assist lumbricals:

👉 Flex MCP + Extend IP joints

◆ NERVE SUPPLY ★

👉 Deep branch of ulnar nerve (C8, T1)

◆ BLOOD SUPPLY

● Dorsal metacarpal arteries

🔥 CONCEPT

- Lumbricals + Interossei = Intrinsic hand muscles

- Function: Flex MCP + Extend IP joints

● IMPORTANT MNEMONICS ★

◆ DAB & PAD

- DAB → Dorsal ABduct
 - PAD → Palmar ADduct
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◆ MEDIAN NERVE MUSCLES (LOAF) ★


👉 Muscles supplied by median nerve in hand:

- L → Lateral 2 lumbricals
- O → Opponens pollicis
- A → Abductor pollicis brevis
- F → Flexor pollicis brevis

CONCEPT

 No intrinsic hand muscle is supplied by radial nerve

CLINICAL CORRELATIONS

- ◆ Ulnar Nerve Injury ("Claw Hand") 
 - Interossei + medial lumbricals lost
 - Loss of:
 - Finger abduction/adduction
 - MCP flexion + IP extension
-

- ◆ Median Nerve Injury

- Loss of:
 - Thenar muscles
 - Lateral lumbricals
 - Leads to:
 - 👉 Poor precision grip
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★ MUST REMEMBER:

- ✓ Lumbricals arise from FDP
 - ✓ Insert into extensor expansion
 - ✓ Flex MCP + Extend IP
 - ✓ Dual nerve supply
 - ✓ DAB / PAD
 - ✓ LOAF mnemonic
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QUICK RECALL:

- Lumbricals:

- FDP → Extensor expansion
- Flex MCP, Extend IP

- Interossei:

- DAB / PAD
- Ulnar nerve

-> The End <-