



Zimzala K9 Training

Zimzala Canine Estate
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Weekly Pregnancy Progression

Week 5

EMBRYOS TO FOETUSES

Up to this stage the embryo remains quite modest, but as from day 30 it becomes quite clear. Around day 32 the eyelids appear. Toes start to separate and from day 35 we enter a new phase. Day 35 marks the end of embryogenesis (the first phase of gestation). The organs are now all beginning to form, and we now refer to the embryo as a foetus.



Toes, claws and whisker buds take shape, gender is discernible. The limbs develop, stubby nubs become actual legs and their skeletons mineralises!! Eyes close and organ development is complete. Embryos are again more resilient to developmental interference, thus less risk of developmental issues at this stage, but you should continue to use caution when it comes to rough play and strenuous exercise.

Outwardly there will be signs too, the abdomen is noticeably increasing. You need to up her nutritional intake by providing a higher quality protein and food higher in energy. The puppies will now start to grow and increase in size and weight. During this foetal phase (and in particular from the 40th day onwards) the foetus' weight will increase by around 75%!! Your dog's weight will likely increase, and her appetite should follow suit, but it isn't a big deal if this doesn't happen yet. You can adjust your dog's diet as needed, but avoid changing it dramatically.