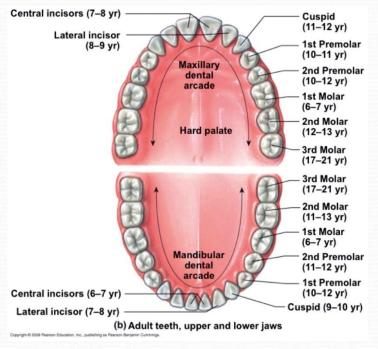
Dental anatomy

Lecture

Permanent maxillary molars

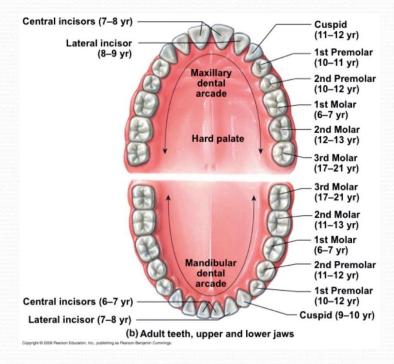


- Permanent maxillary molars are the largest and strongest maxillary teeth.
- Generally speaking, the maxillary molars have large crowns with four well-formed cusps. They have three roots, two buccal and one lingual, the lingual root is the largest.
- They are not succedaneous teeth, because they have no predecessors, they erupt behind the deciduous molars.

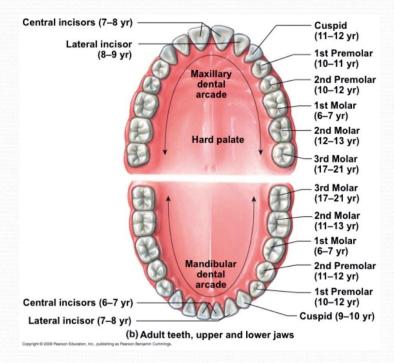


• Their main function is:

- grinding of the food, they assist the mandibular molars in performing the major portion of the work in the mastication
- **supporting** the muscles of mastication.
- maintaining vertical dimension.

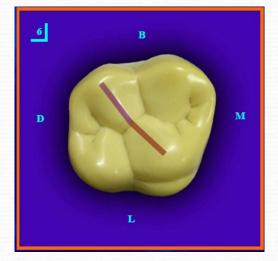


- It is the largest tooth in the maxillary arch.
- The permanent first molars usually appear in the oral cavity when the child is 6 years old, the mandibular molars precede the maxillary molars.
- The first permanent molar (maxillary or mandibular) erupts posterior to the second deciduous molar, taking up a position in contact with it.



Principle identifying features of the maxillary 1st molar

- rhomboidal occlusal table or outline.
- the presence of a fifth cusp named (the cusp or tubercle of Carabelli) a nonfunctional cusp on the lingual surface of the mesio-lingual cusp.
- the presence of an oblique ridge extending from the mesio-lingual cusp to the disto-buccal cusp.
- the presence of three well separated and well developed roots: two buccal and one lingual, the lingual one is the longest.



Buccal aspect

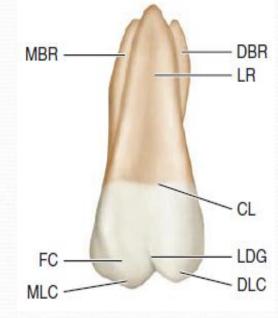
- the crown is roughly trapezoidal and the cervical line shows very little convexity which is directed to the root.
- the mesial outline of the crown is straight, curving occlusally as it reaches the contact area, which is located at the junction of the middle and occlusal thirds.
- the distal outline of the crown is convex, with the contact area located nearly at the centre of the middle third.

Buccal aspect

- the mesio-buccal cusp is broader than the disto-buccal cusp, and its mesial and distal slopes meet at an obtuse angle, while the mesial and distal slopes of the disto-buccal cusp meet at a right angle (which is sharper) and we may see the lingual cusps.
- the buccal developmental groove divides the buccal cusps into two equal distance and it terminates apically, nearly half distance to the cervical line.
- the three roots are visible and their axes are inclined distally, the lingual root is the longest.

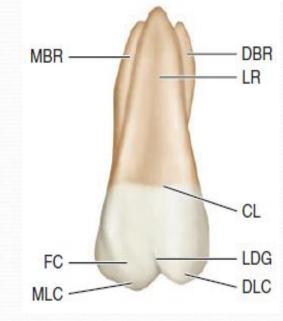
Lingual aspect

- the lingual cusps only can be seen, with the mesio-lingual cusp is the largest and account for the 3/5 of the mesio-distal width of the crown, while the distolingual cusp accounts for 2/5 of the mesio-distal dimension.
- the lingual developmental groove starts approximately at the centre mesio-distally and curves sharply distally then continues to the occlusal surface.



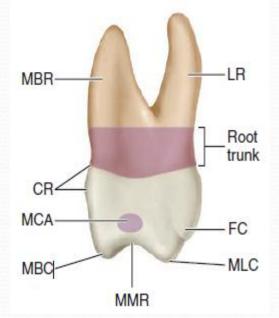
Lingual aspect

- the fifth cusp (the cusp of carabelli) is
 1.5 mm cervical to the mesio-lingual
 cusp tip and an irregular developmental
 groove separates this cusp from the
 mesiolingual cusp.
- the three roots are visible, with the lingual root making most of the aspect.



Mesial aspect

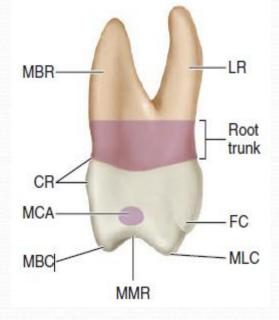
- the buccal outline has a crest of curvature within the cervical third, then it continues with a convex outline to the tip of the cusp
- the lingual outline has a crest of curvature within the middle third, and it shows a convex pattern until it reaches the cusp of carabelli, at which it shows another convexity.



• the mesial marginal ridge is located at a level 1/5 the height of the crown.

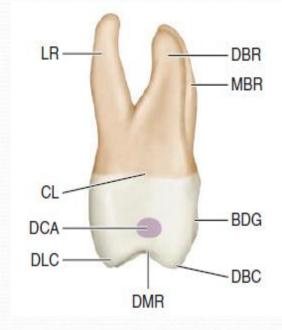
Mesial aspect

- the cervical line curves occlusally about 1 mm.
- the intercuspal distance of the two buccal cusps is a little more than half the buccolingual dimension of the crown.
- the mesial contact area is buccal to the buccolingual centre of the crown.
- the lingual and mesiobuccal roots can be seen.

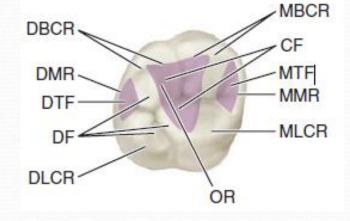


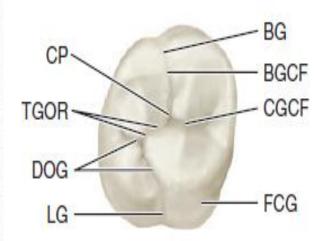
Distal aspect

- The general outline is similar to that of the mesial aspect, but:
 - the buccolingual measurement is less distally than mesially.
 - the distal marginal ridge is located more cervically, so we can see part of the occlusal surface.
 - the curvature of the cervical line is zero.
 - all the three roots are visible, and the distobuccal root is the smallest one.

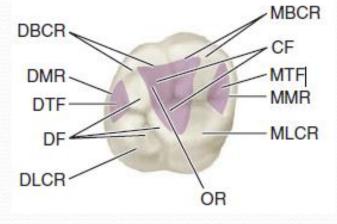


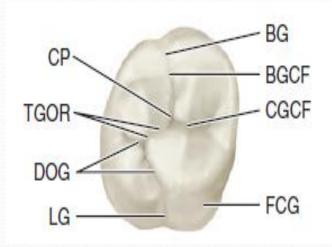
- the occlusal outline is rhomboidal in shape and the crown is wider mesially than distally and wider lingually than buccally.
- four well developed cusps can be seen: the mesiolingual cusp is the largest, then the mesiobuccal, then the distolingual, then the distobuccal, then the cusp of Carabelli.



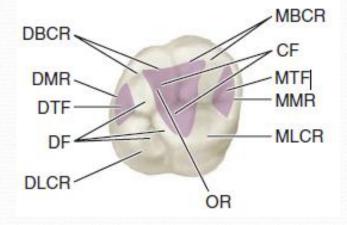


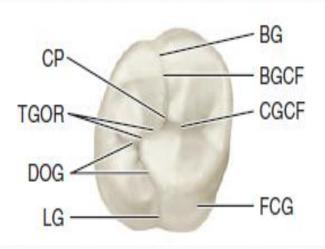
- In this rhomboidal figure of the occlusal surface the mesiobuccal and the distolingual line angles are acute, while the mesiolingual and distobuccal line angles are obtuse.
- there is an oblique ridge formed by the union of the triangular ridge of the distobuccal cusp and the distal ridge of the mesiolingual cusp crossing the occlusal surface obliquely.





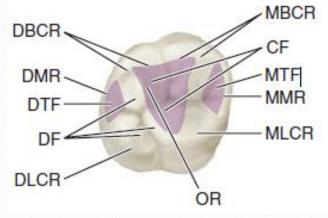
- There are **four** fossae:
- major fossae:
 - central fossa: roughly triangular in shape, located mesial to the oblique ridge.
 - distal fossa: roughly linear in shape, located distal to the oblique ridge.
- minor fossae:
 - mesial triangular fossa: located distal to the mesial marginal ridge.
 - distal triangular fossa: located mesial to the distal marginal ridge.

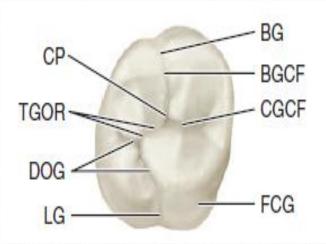




There are **six** developmental grooves:

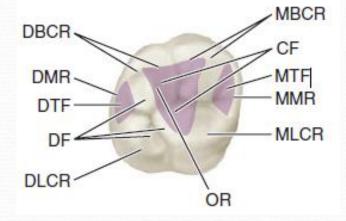
- Central developmental groove: from the central pit to the mesial triangular fossa.
- Buccal developmental groove: from the central pit to the buccal surface, between the mesiobuccal and distobuccal cusps.
- Distal oblique groove: from the distal triangular fossa going obliquely.

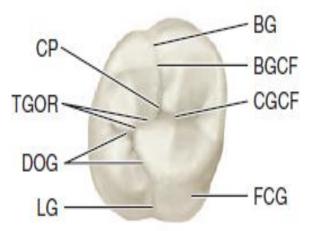




There are **six** developmental grooves:

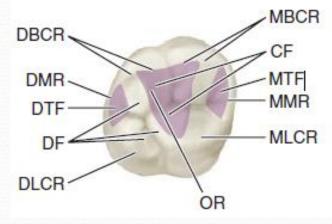
- Lingual developmental groove: joins with the distal oblique groove going between the mesiolingual and distolingual cusps in a cervical direction.
- Transverse groove of the oblique ridge: crosses the oblique ridge.
- Fifth cusp groove: passes between the fifth cusp and the mesiolingual cusp.

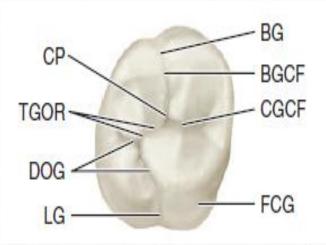




There are three pits:

- Central pit: it is located at the deepest part of the central fossa, at the junction of the central groove and buccal developmental groove.
- Mesial pit: it is located at the deepest part of the mesial triangular fossa.
- Distal pit: it is located at the junction of the distal and distal triangular fossae.





OCCLUSAL ASPECT

Occlusal Aspect

Cusp size:

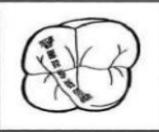
- Mesiopalatal: largest
- Mesiobuccal
- Distobuccal
- Distopalatal: smallest
- Ridges:
 - Mesial and distal marginal ridges and oblique ridge
- Fossae:
 - Major: Central and Distal fossa
 - Minor: Mesial and distal triangular

• Grooves:

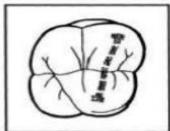
- Central, buccal and palatal developmental groove
- Distal oblique groove
- Transverse groove
- Fifth cusp groove
- Supplemental grooves
- Pit:
 - Central Pit



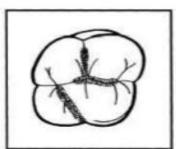
Fossae and Pits



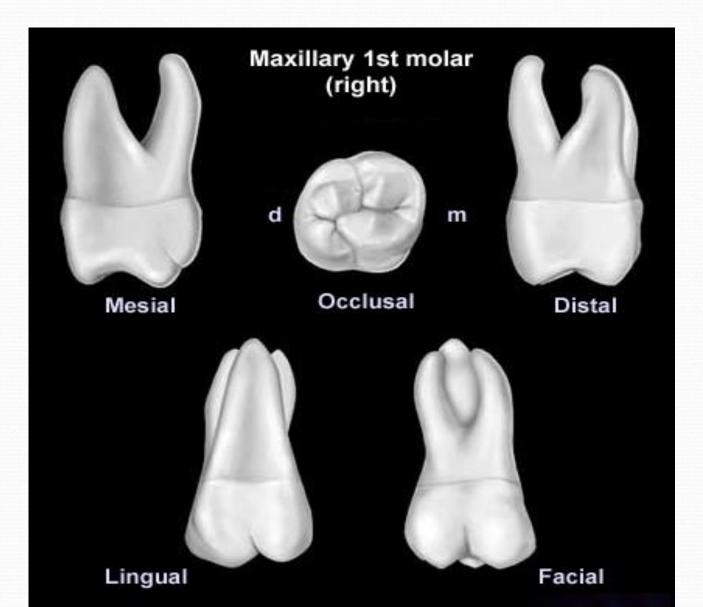
Oblique Ridge



Transverse Ridge



Sulci and Depressions





5th cusp (Cusp of Carabelli)















