

Tooth Morphology

PERMANENT MANDIBULAR MOLARS

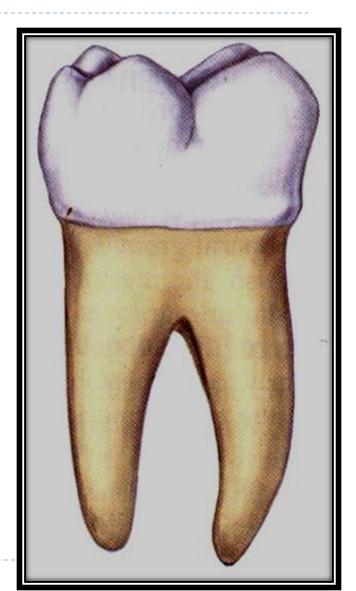
CHRONOLOGY

First evidence of calcification	At birth
Enamel completion	2 ^{1/2} to 3 years
Eruption	6 to 7 years
Root completion	9 to 10 years

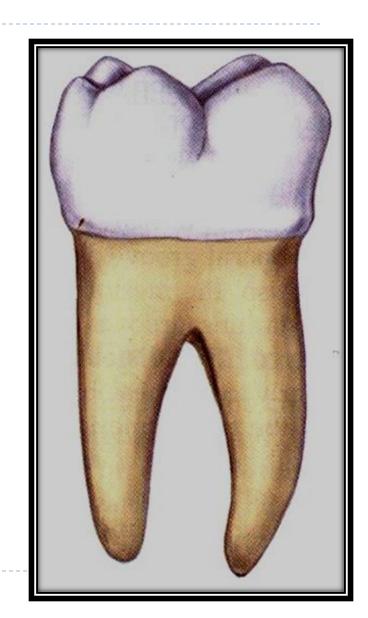


BUCCAL ASPECT

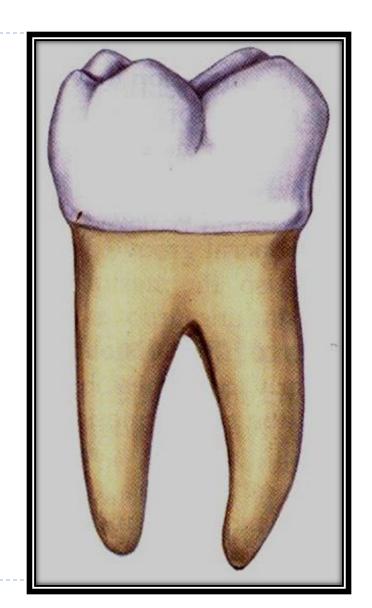
- > Has the widest mesiodistal diameter of all of the molar teeth.
- > Three cusps separated by developmental grooves.



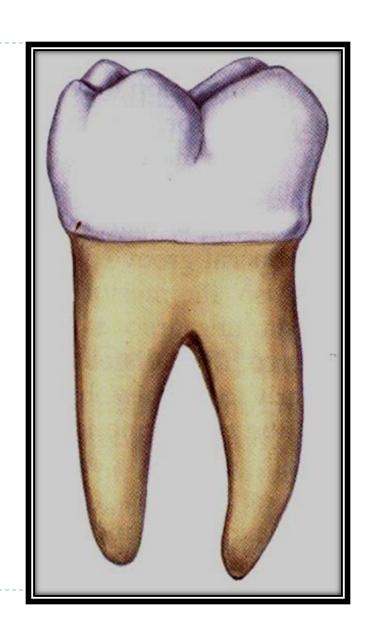
Moving from mesial to distal: mesiobuccal cusp, mesiobuccal developmental groove, distobuccal cusp, distobuccal developmental groove, and the distal cusp.



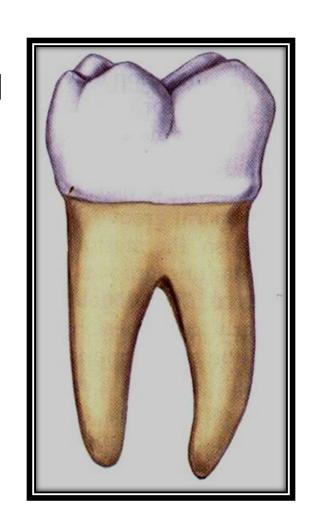
- The mesiobuccal cusp is usually the widest of the cusps & largest of the five cusps.
- The distal cusp is smaller than any of the buccal cusps and it contributes little to the buccal surface.



- Mesiobuccal groove extends cervically to a point about midway occlusocervically & ends in buccal pit.
- Buccal cervical ridge is mesiodistally oriented roundness in the cervical 3rd area



- Mesial outline is slightly concave from the contact area cervically & is rounded occlusally
- > Distal outline is more rounded
- Mesial & distal contact area are at junction of occlusal & middle third
- > The distal root is usually less curved than the mesial root.

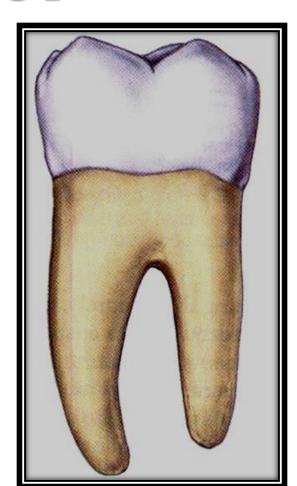




LINGUAL ASPECT

Three cusps:

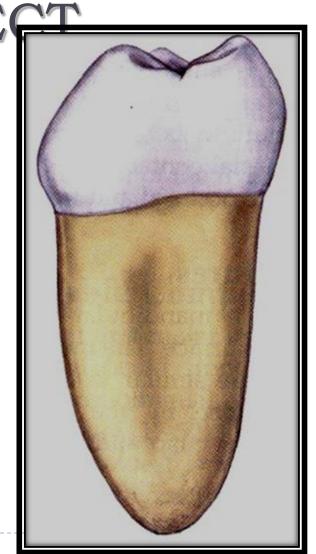
- Mesiolingual, distolingual, & distal cusp which is somewhat lower in profile.
- > The mesiolingual cusp is usually the widest and highest of the three.
- A short lingual developmental groove separates the two lingual cusps



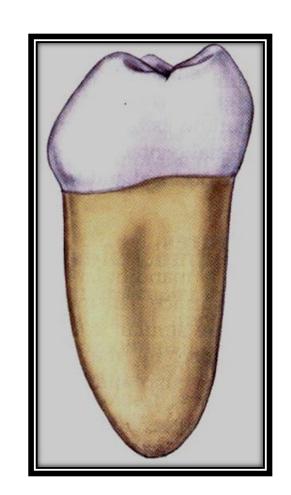


MESIAL ASPECT

- Mesial profile is inclined lingually
- > The distinctive height of curvature seen in the cervical third of the buccal surface is called the cervical ridge.
- > The mesial surface may be flat or concave in its cervical third.

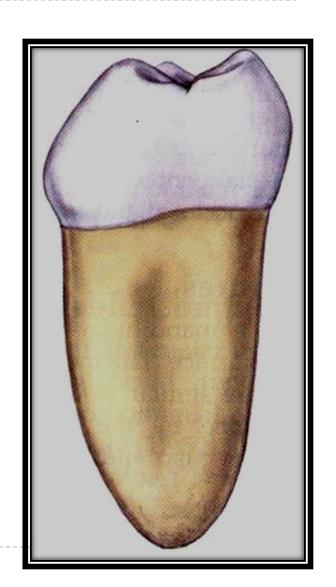


- It is highly convex in its middle and occlusal thirds.
- > The mesial root is the broadest buccolingually of any of the lower molar roots.



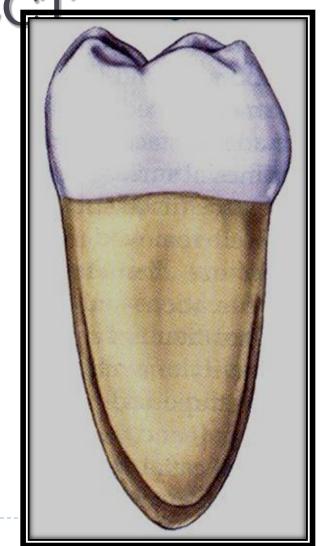


> The occlusal profile is marked by the mesiobuccal cusp, mesiolingual cusp, and the mesial marginal ridge that connects them.



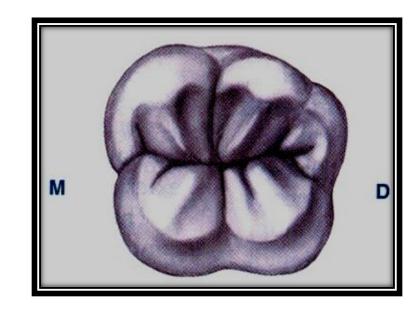
DISTAL ASPECT

- The distal surface of the crown is narrower buccolingually than the mesial surface.
- The cusps seen from the distal aspect are: the distobuccal, the distal cusp, and the distolingual cusp.
- > The distal root is narrower.



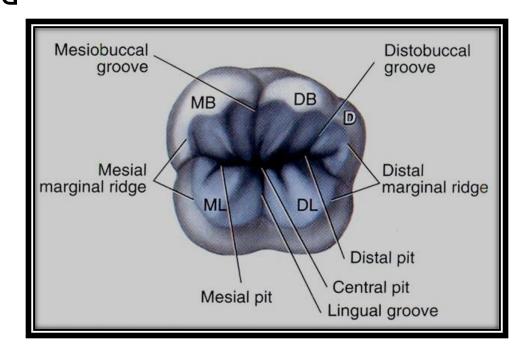
OCCLUSAL ASPECT

- This tooth presents a pentagonal occlusal outline that is distinctive for this tooth.
- > There are five cusps.
- The mesiobuccal cusp is the largest, the distal cusp is the smallest.





- The two buccal grooves and the single lingual groove form the "Y" pattern distinctive for this tooth.
- The five cusp and "Y" pattern is important in dental anthropology.





CONTACT POINTS

- > Height of Curvature: The mesial contact is centered buccolingually just below the marginal ridge.
- > The distal contact is centered over the distal root, but is buccal to the center point of the distal marginal ridge.



ROOTS

> Lower molars have mesial and distal roots.

In the first molar, the mesial root is the largest. It has a distal curvature.

The distal root has little curvature and projects distally.



VARIATION

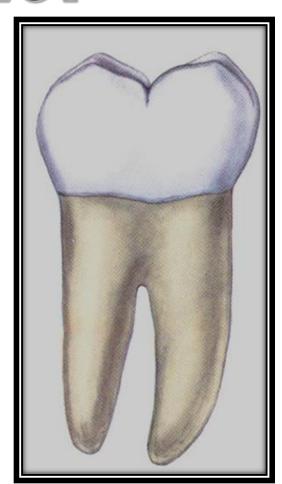
- Most lower first molars have five cusps. Occasionally the distal cusp is missing.
- More rarely, in large molars, the distal cusp is joined by a sixth cusp, the 'cusp six' or tuberculum sixtum.
- > Two mesial roots are seen on occasion.

PERMANENT MANDIBULAR SECOND MOLARS

First evidence of calcification	2 ½ to 3 years
Enamel completed	7 to 8 years
Eruption	11 to 13 years
Root completed	14 to 15 years

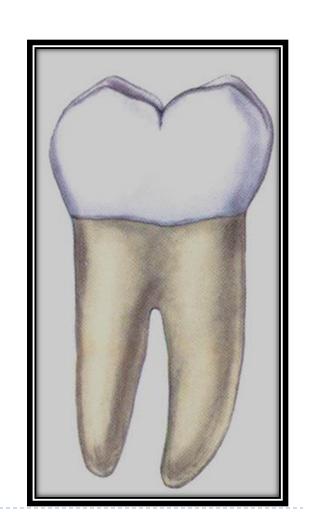
FACIAL ASPECT

- The 2nd molar crown is shorter both mesiodistally and cervico-occlusally to the 1st molar.
- > The two well-developed buccal cusps form the occlusal outline.





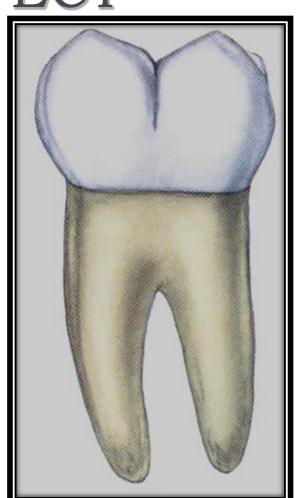
- > There is no distal cusp as on the first molar.
- A buccal developmental groove appears between the buccal cusps and passes midway down the buccal surface towards the cervix.



LINGUAL ASPECT

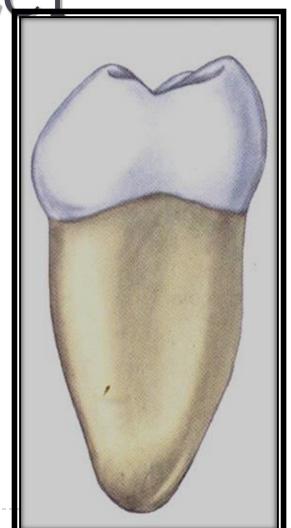
The crown is shorter than that of the first molar.

The occlusal outline is formed by the mesiolingual and distolingal cusps.



MESIAL ASPECT

> The mesial profile resembles that of the first molar.



DISTAL ASPECT

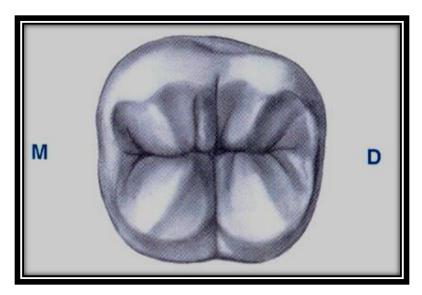
- > The distal profile is formed by the distobuccal cusp, distal marginal ridge, and the distolingual cusp.
- Unlike the first molar, there is no distal fifth cusp.





OCCLUSAL ASPECT

There are four well developed cusps with developmental grooves that meet at a right angle to form the distinctive "+" pattern characteristic of this tooth





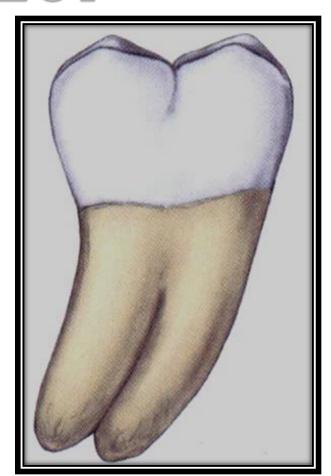
PERMANENT MANDIBULAR THIRD MOLARS

First evidence of calcification	8 to 10 years
Enamel completed	12 to 16 years
Eruption	17 to 21 years
Root completed	18 to 25 years



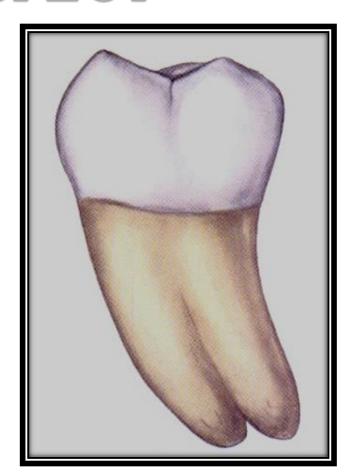
FACIAL ASPECT

> The crown is often short and has a rounded outline.



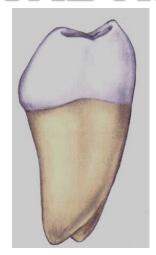
LINGUAL ASPECT

Similarly, the crown is short and bulbous



MESIAL AND DISTAL ASPECT

- Mesially and distally, this tooth resembles the first and second molars.
- The crown of the third molar, however, is shorter than either of the other molars.
- > Technically, only the mesial surface is a 'proximal' surface.

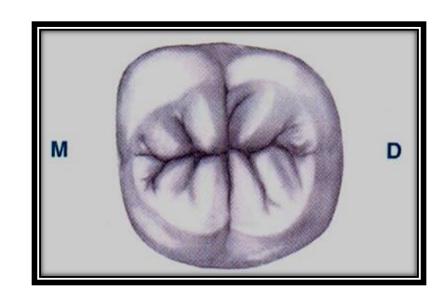






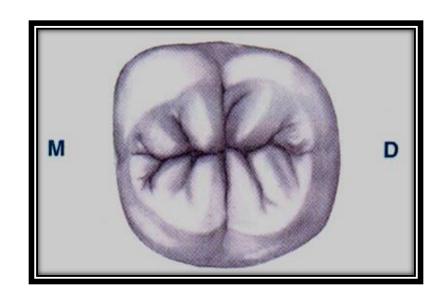
OCCLUSAL ASPECT

- Four or five cusps may be present.
- This surface can be a good copy of the first or second molar, or poorly developed with many accessory grooves.





- The occlusal outline is often ovoid and the occlusal surface is constricted.
- Occasionally, the surface has so many grooves.





CONTACT POINTS

Height of Curvature: The rounded mesial surface has its contact area more cervical than any other lower molar.

> There is no tooth distal to the third molar.



ROOTS

> The two roots are usually short, often curved distally, and poorly developed.



VARIATION

- > This is an extremely variable tooth and on occasion it is missing.
- > While the most common anomaly of upper third molars is that they are undersized, lower third molars can be undersized or oversized.
- > Lower third molars fail to erupt in many persons.



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Thank you so