Body Facts and Fiction

A 35-page book of cool facts, debunked myths, and awesome pictures.
Did you know?
The hippocampus holds an estimated 1000 terabytes of memory.

That's the equivalent of 3 million hours, or 300 years, of video.
The extraocular muscles move over 100,000 times a day.

They’re the busiest skeletal muscles in your body!
Men and women have an “Adam’s apple.”

The laminae of the thyroid cartilage meet at a steeper angle in males, making it commonly more pronounced.
The aorta is about 1.2 in. (2-3 cm) in diameter.

That’s thicker than the width of an average garden hose!
The “pop” sound made by cracking joints is caused by gas.

Synovial joints have fluid-filled capsules that, when stretched, release gas and “pop.”
Salivary glands produce 0.4 gal (1.5 L) of saliva every day.

In a lifetime, a human can produce enough to fill almost three swimming pools!

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About 8% of the population have more than 24 ribs. The most common form of these supernumerary ribs is an extra cervical rib.
Electric signals can travel throughout your nervous system as fast as 268 mph (431 kmh).

That’s faster than the Bugatti Veyron Super Sport, the fastest street-legal car in the world!
There are 60,000 mi (96,561 km) of blood vasculature in your body.

That’s enough to wrap around the world almost three times!
Some people are born with their hearts pointing toward the right instead of the left.

Mirror-image dextrocardia is a condition in which the heart and other organs are flipped in a mirror image of their normal positions.
Normal heart

Dextrocardia
Medical myths debunked.
Blood pools in the veins after death.

That led ancient Greek anatomists, who noticed arteries of corpses were empty of blood, to surmise that arteries were full of air in life.
Current science places a person’s intelligence and personality in the frontal lobe.

The ancient Egyptians thought these were located in the heart—after death, the brain was disposed of with other internal organs while the heart was kept in the body to go with the person into the afterlife.
Urobilins, a waste product of the red blood cell life cycle, give urine its yellow color.

In the Middle Ages, alchemists thought that urine was yellow due to the presence of gold and tried to extract gold from it.
The lenses in the eyes focus light to form an image on the retinas that is communicated through the optic nerve to the brain.

An ancient Greek science philosopher, the Alcmaeon of Croton, believed eyes were made of fire and water, and vision was the visualization of what was reflected in their gleam.
The tradition of wearing a wedding ring on the fourth finger of the left hand can be traced to ancient Egyptian times.

It was believed that the vena amoris was in the fourth digit of the left hand, and it was the only vein in the hands that carried blood straight to the heart.
Learn more about Visible Body apps:

For PC or Mac:

- 3D Human Anatomy Atlas 2
- 3D Muscle Premium 2
- Skeleton Premium 2
- 3D Heart & Circulatory Premium 2

For iPad/iPhone:

- 3D Human Anatomy Atlas 2
- 3D Muscle Premium 2
- Skeleton Premium 2
- 3D Heart & Circulatory Premium 2

3D Human Anatomy Atlas for Android