

THE THREE ZONES OF PENILE SKIN

These five photographs show the three zones of skin on a normal, intact (non-circumcised) penis:

1. The skin covering the shaft (the skin from the groin to point at which the skin begins to cover the glans);
2. The foreskin's outside fold (the skin that covers the foreskin's inside fold and the glans to the mucocutaneous junction [the point at which the foreskin's outside fold turns back under itself and becomes the inside fold]);
3. The foreskin's inside fold (the skin from the mucocutaneous junction to its juncture at the glans — visible only when the foreskin is retracted).



#1 Penis slightly tumescent. The area between the green line and blue line is the foreskin's outside fold. The outside fold is almost as long as the skin covering the shaft. Well over half of the total penile skin is foreskin.

#2 The foreskin retracted (manually) about half an inch.

#3 The foreskin retracted (manually) and "lodged" behind the coronal sulcus.

#4 The foreskin retracted farther. (Fingers holding the foreskin back don't show in the photo.) Most of the shaft is now covered with foreskin. The area between the green line and the glans is the retracted inside fold. If the skin were released, it would return to its "relaxed" position in #2.

#5 The foreskin retracted as far as it will go. The area between the green line and the glans is the foreskin's fully retracted inside fold. (One of the fingers holding the foreskin back is partially visible.) The entire penile shaft is now covered with foreskin. Well over half of the penile shaft is covered with the foreskin's inside fold. Veins, arteries, capillaries clearly visible.

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