

A large red speech bubble graphic with a white outline, pointing downwards. It contains the text "Musculoskeletal System" and "Muscles" in white. The background features a pattern of concentric circles and dashed lines in light gray.

# Musculoskeletal System

## **Muscles**

# Musculoskeletal System

The **ability to move** is an essential activity of the human body

- And to move we need **muscles!**

**Did you know?**

Our body has over **600 individual muscles**

Muscles make up about  **$\frac{1}{2}$  our body weight**

# Musculoskeletal System

Muscles have 4 main functions:

**Movement**



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**Maintaining Posture**

your muscles are working to keep you standing up,  
even if you are not moving



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**Maintaining Posture**

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**Stabilizing Joints**

some joints are held in place by muscles



# Musculoskeletal System

Muscles have 4 main functions:

**Movement**

**Maintaining Posture**

your muscles are working to keep you upright  
even if you are not moving

**Stabilizing Joints**

some joints are held in place

**Heat Release**

75% of energy expended during muscle movement becomes heat



# Muskuloskeletal System

Body movements are determined by three types of muscles

**Skeletal (Voluntary)** – can be controlled by will.

**Smooth (involuntary)** – cannot be controlled by will.

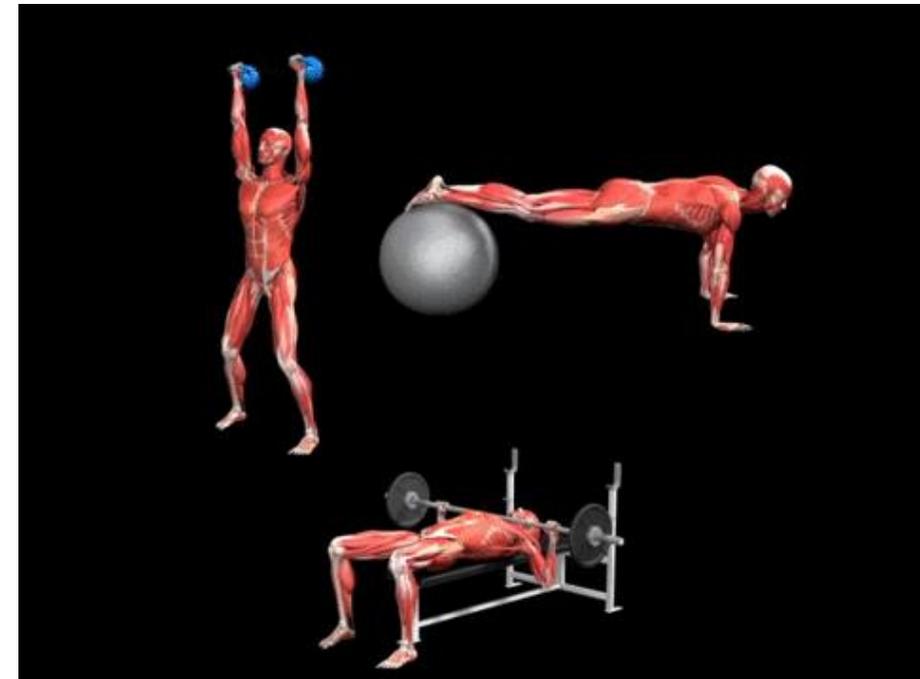
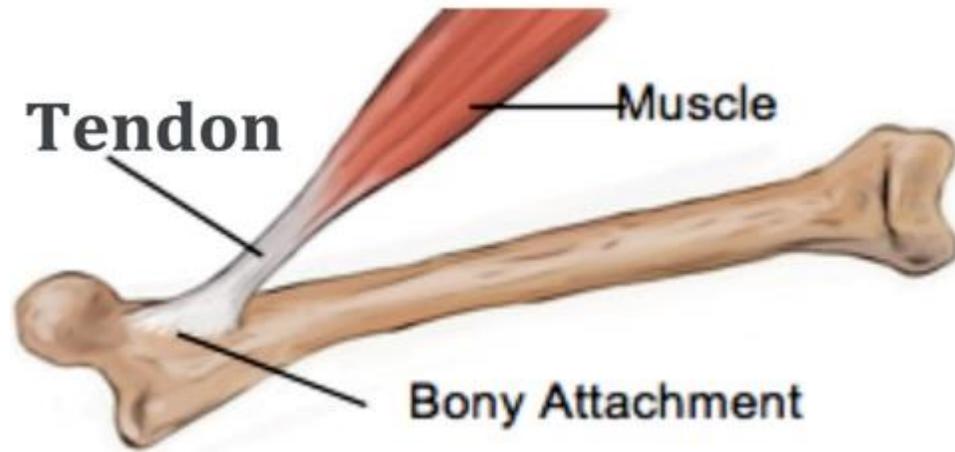
**Cardiac** – control the contractions of the heart.

# Skeletal Muscle

**Attach to bones** to provide voluntary movement

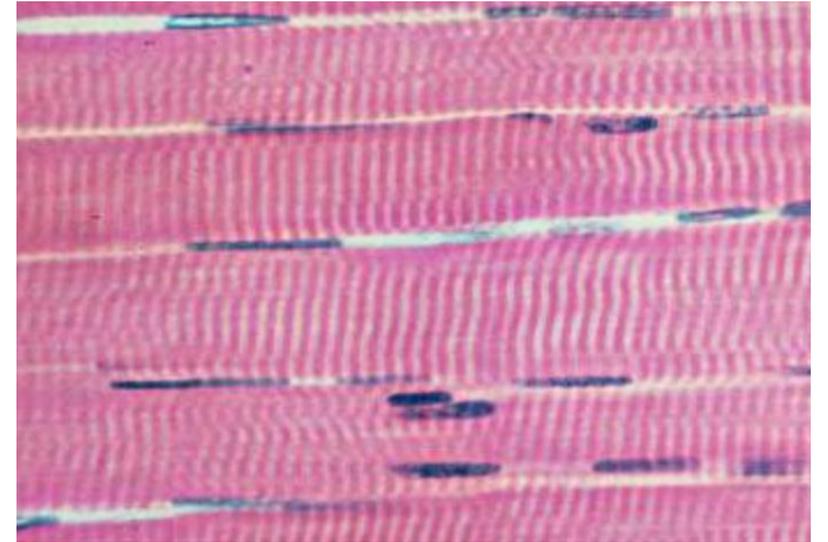
**Tendons:** strong, tough connective cords **between muscles and bones**

**Fascia:** tough, sheet-like membrane



# Skeletal Muscle

Help **maintain posture**  
**Protect** internal organs  
Called **striated (striped)**  
because they have  
striations of alternating  
light and dark bands



# Skeletal Muscles

Fleshy body parts are made of skeletal muscles

Provide movement to the limbs, but **contract quickly, fatigue easily** and **lack** the ability to **maintain contraction** for **long periods**

Ex: Blinking eyes, talking, breathing, eating, dancing and writing all produced by these muscles

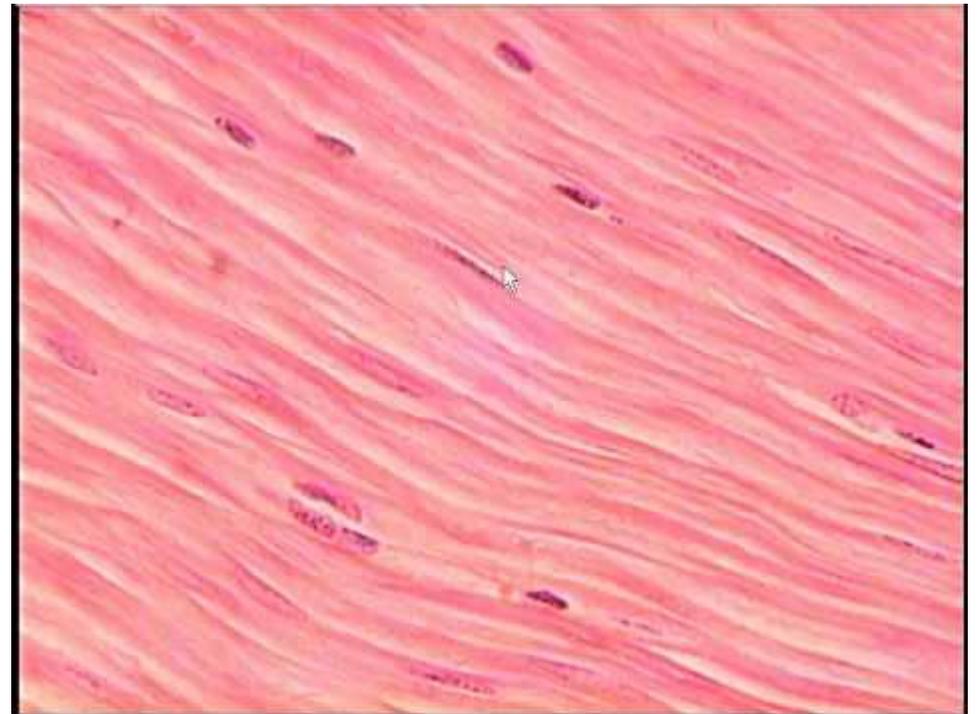
# Smooth Muscles

Called smooth muscle because they are unmarked by striations

**Not attached** to bones, **act slowly**, **do not tire easily** and can **remain contracted** for a long time

Not under conscious control so they are also called **involuntary muscles**

Found in walls of **internal organs** (intestines, bladder, stomach, uterus, blood vessels)



# Cardiac Muscles

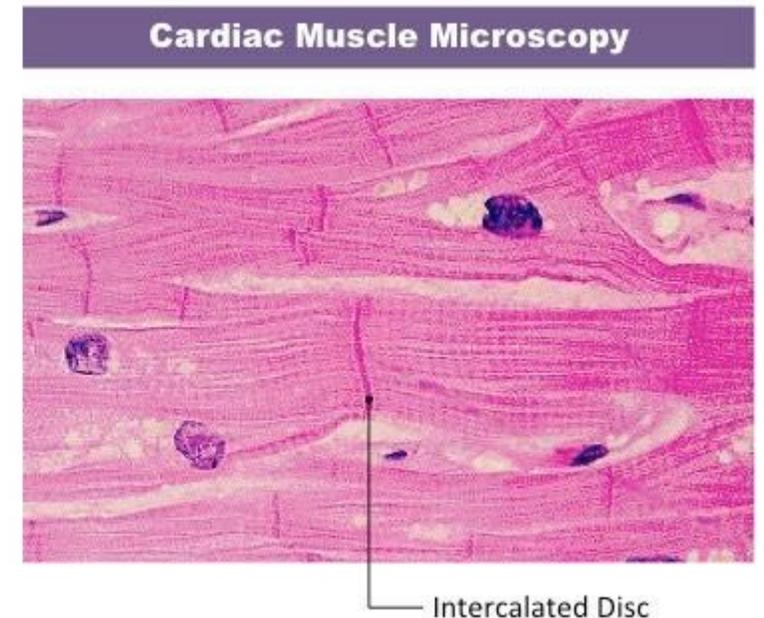
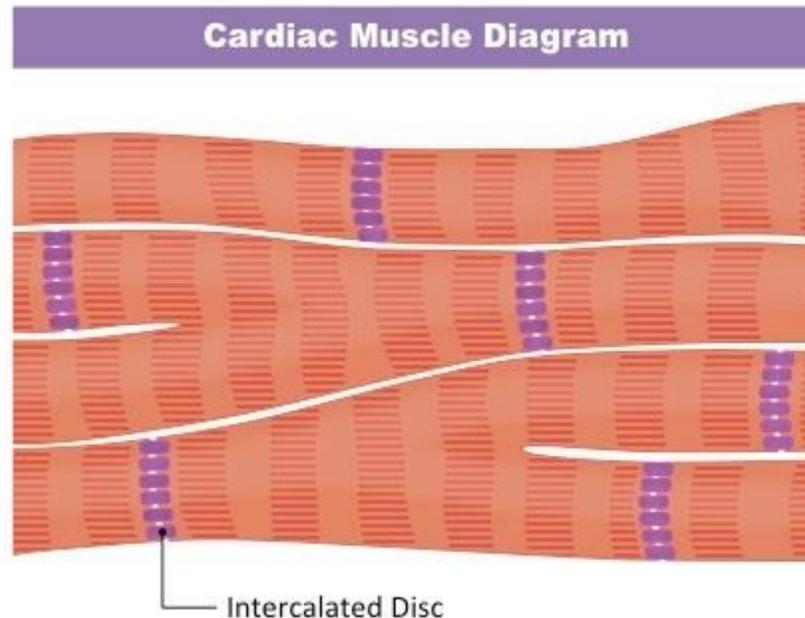
Found only in the **heart**

**Involuntary** muscle

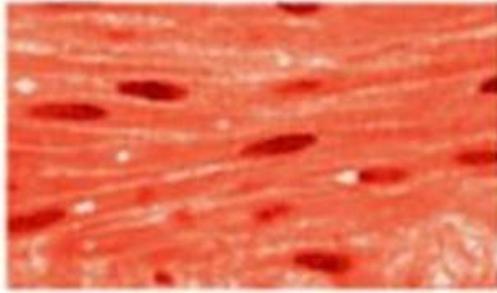
Requires a continuous supply of oxygen to function

Cardiac muscle cells begin to **die after 30 seconds of oxygen cut-off**

**Striated and branched**

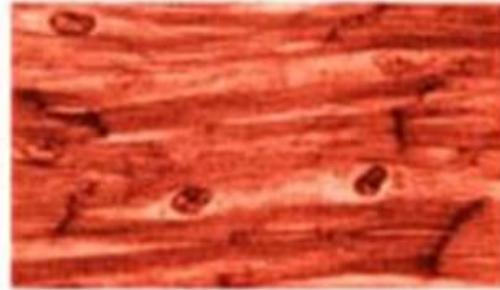


## SMOOTH MUSCLE



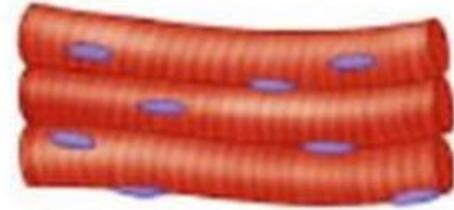
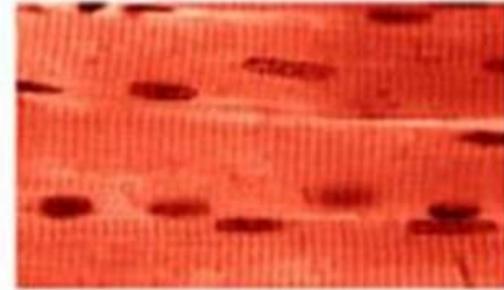
INTERNAL ORGANS

## CARDIAC MUSCLE



HEART

## SKELETAL MUSCLE



LEG

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involuntary

voluntary

# Special Muscles

**Sphincter (dilator) muscles** are openings between:

- The esophagus and stomach
- The stomach and small intestines
- Walls of the anus, urethra and mouth

Open and close to **control passage of substances**

# Characteristics of Muscles

*All muscles have 4 common characteristics*

**Excitability** – ability to respond to a stimulus (ie: nerve impulse)

**Contractibility** – muscle fibers that are stimulated by nerves contract (become shorter) and causes movement

**Extensibility** – ability to be stretched

**Elasticity** – allows the muscle to return to its original shape after it has been stretched

# Characteristics of Muscles

## **Muscle fatigue**

- Buildup of lactic acid caused by vigorous exercise where blood is unable to be transported

## **Muscle tone**

- State of partial contraction is called muscle tone

# Characteristics of Muscles

## Contractures

- Permanent shortening of a muscle or joint from remaining tight for too long

## Atrophy

- Loss of muscle tone occurs when muscles are not used for a long period of time.
  - This is why astronauts must spend a lot of time working out so that their muscles don't atrophy!

# Characteristics of Muscles

Muscles can only **pull**. They can never push.

- Because of this, muscles will **work together in pairs**. One muscle will **contract (get shorter)**, while its partner will **extend (get longer)**.
- This type of relationship is called an **antagonistic relationship**.

What is the best example of this?

**Biceps and Triceps**

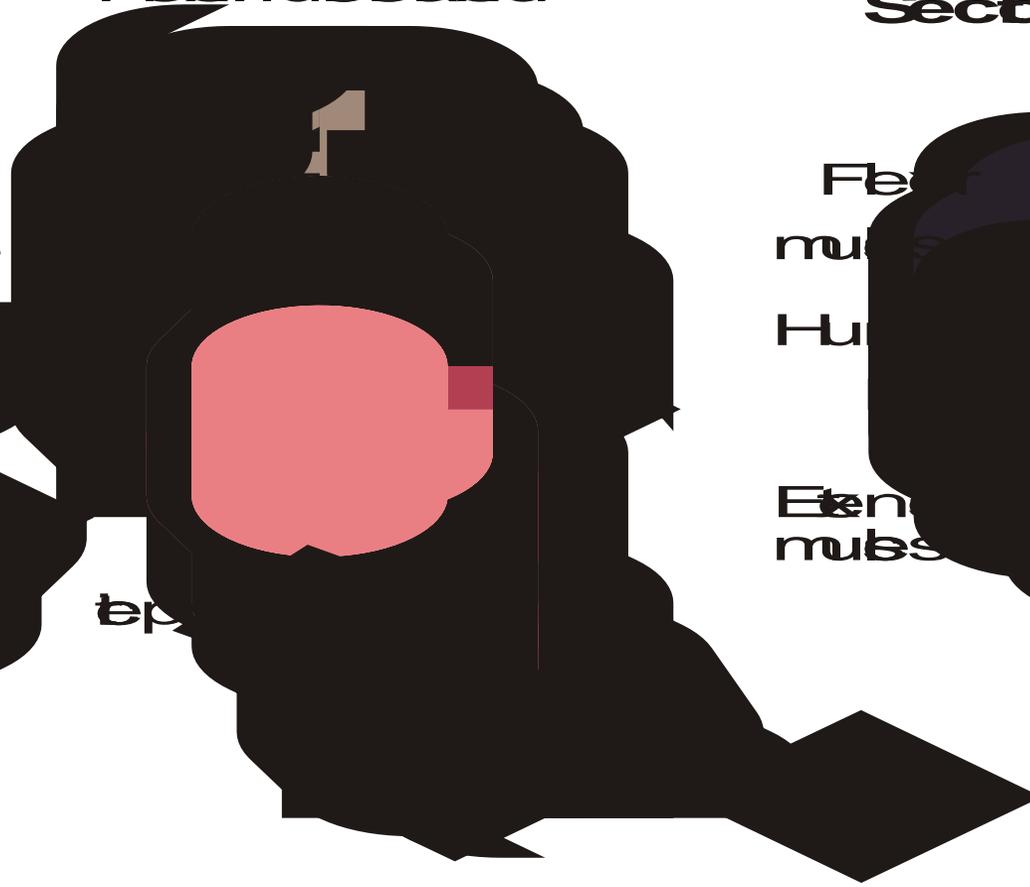
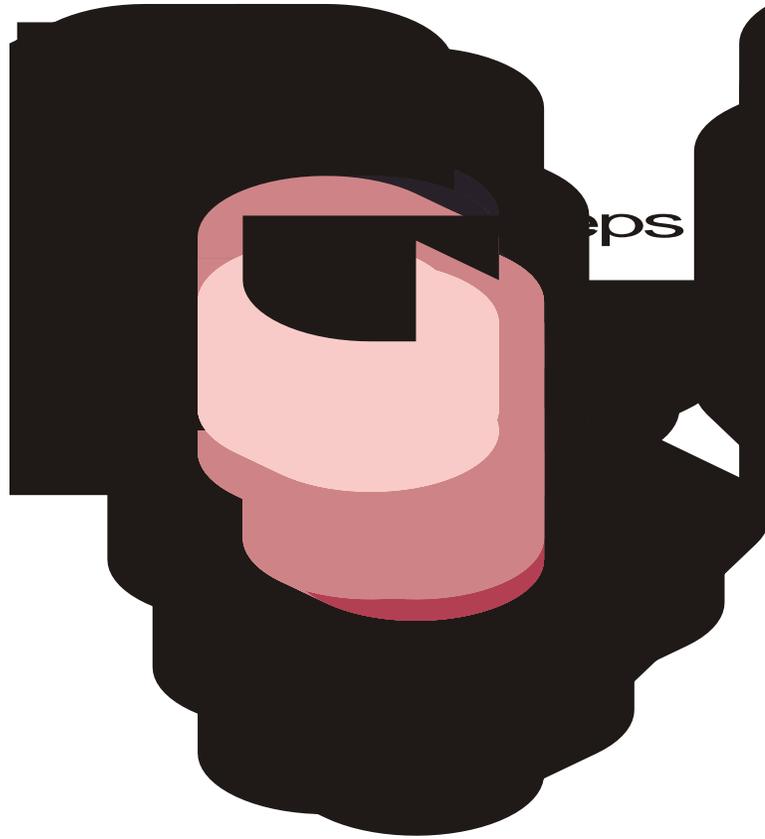
# Elbow flexed

# Elbow extended

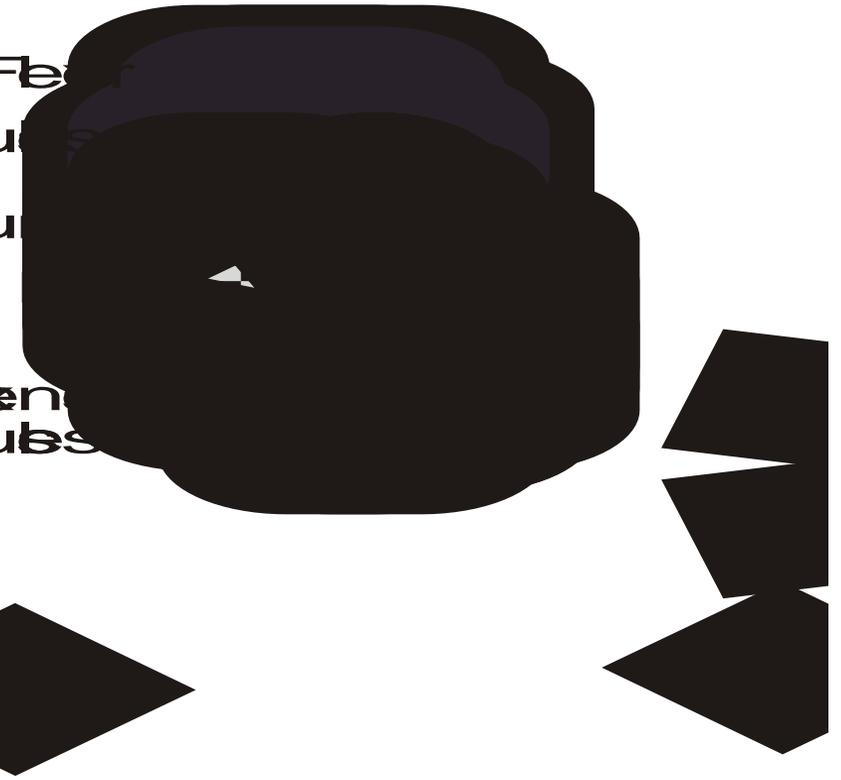
# Scapulothoracic

Flexor digitorum profundus  
Flexor digitorum superficialis

Extensor digitorum  
Extensor carpi radialis



Flexor digitorum profundus  
Flexor digitorum superficialis  
Humeral head of the pronator teres  
Extensor digitorum  
Extensor carpi radialis



# Muscles and Heat

When muscles work, they **produce heat** that our body needs to function properly

- Major source of this heat is from the **production of ATP**
- Recall that ATP is the result of **cellular respiration**
  - Therefore muscle cells need enough **oxygen, glucose** and other materials circulated by the blood in order to function properly
  - When the **muscle is stimulated**, **ATP** is released, thus producing **heat**

# Types of Movement

## **Adduction:**

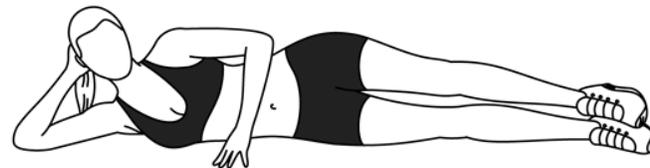
Moving a body part toward the midline



# Types of Movement

## **Abduction:**

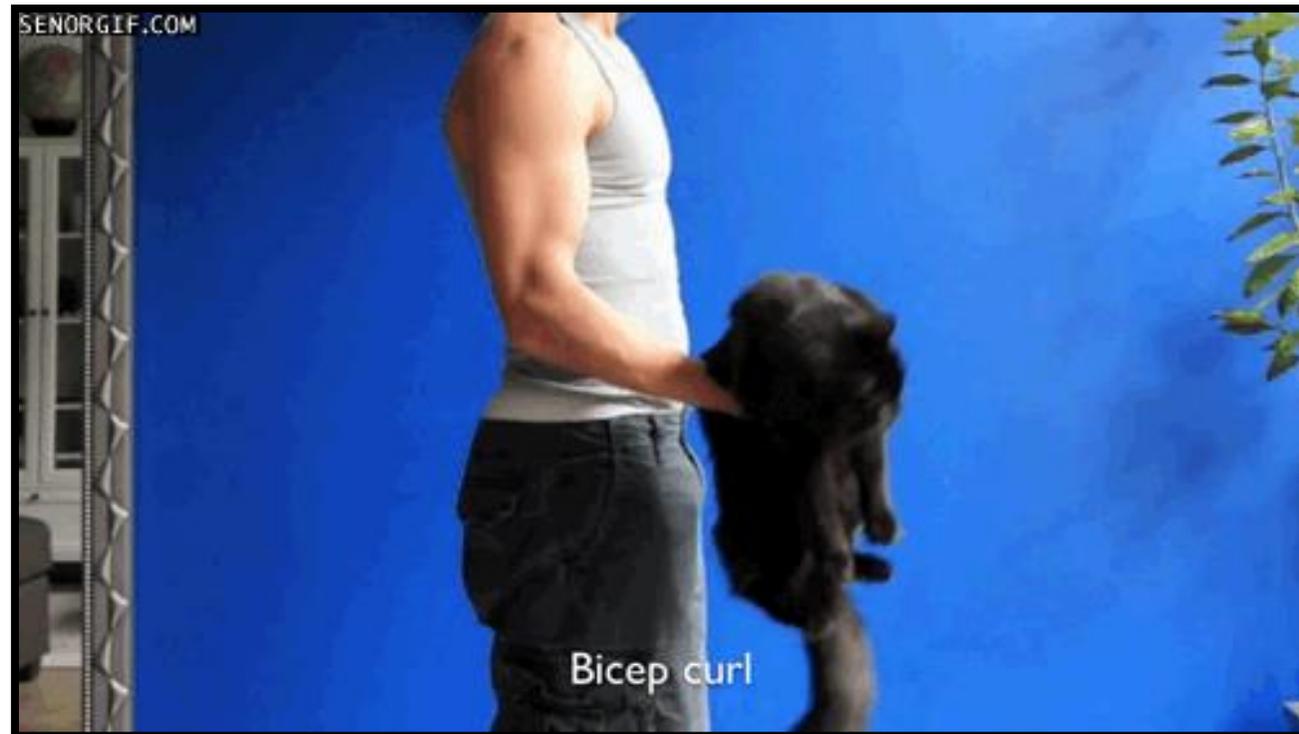
Moving a body part away from the midline



# Types of Movement

## **Flexion:**

Decreasing the angle between two bones or bending body parts



# Types of Movement

## **Extension:**

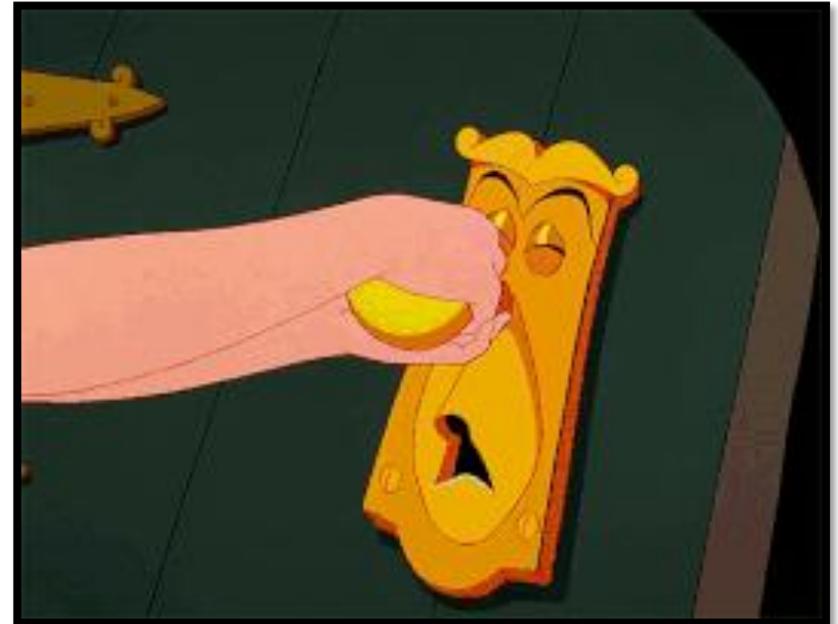
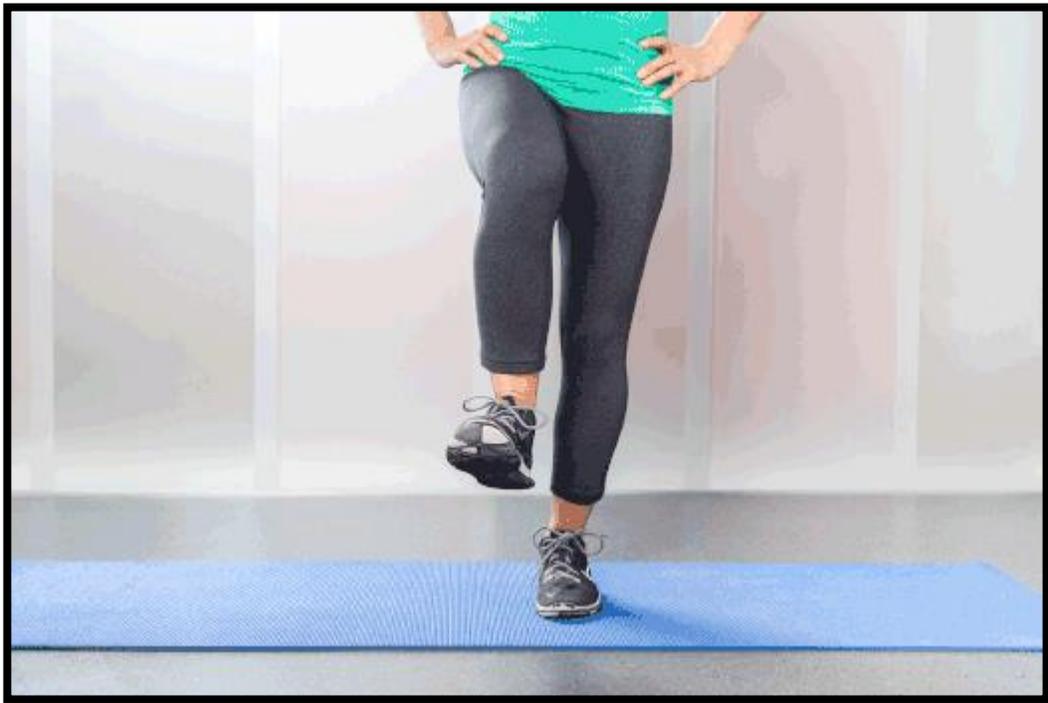
Increasing the angle between two bones or straightening the body part



# Types of Movement

## Rotation:

Turning a body part around its own axis



# Types of Movement

## Circumduction:

Moving in a circle at a joint



# **Summary: Types of Motion**

**Abduction** – moving away from midline

**Adduction** – moving toward midline

**Flexion** – bending of body part

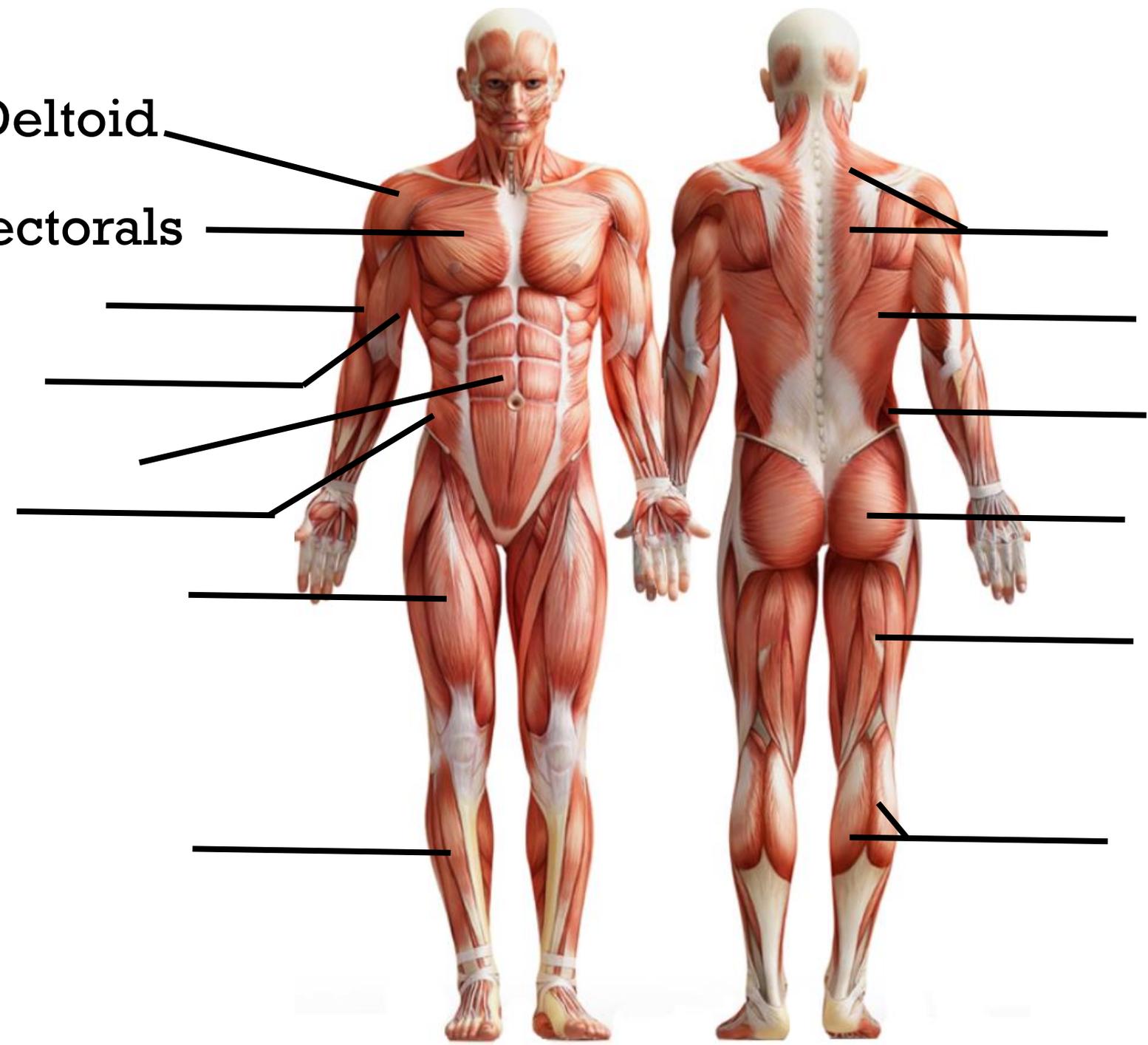
**Extension** – straightening of body part

**Rotation** – moving around its own axis

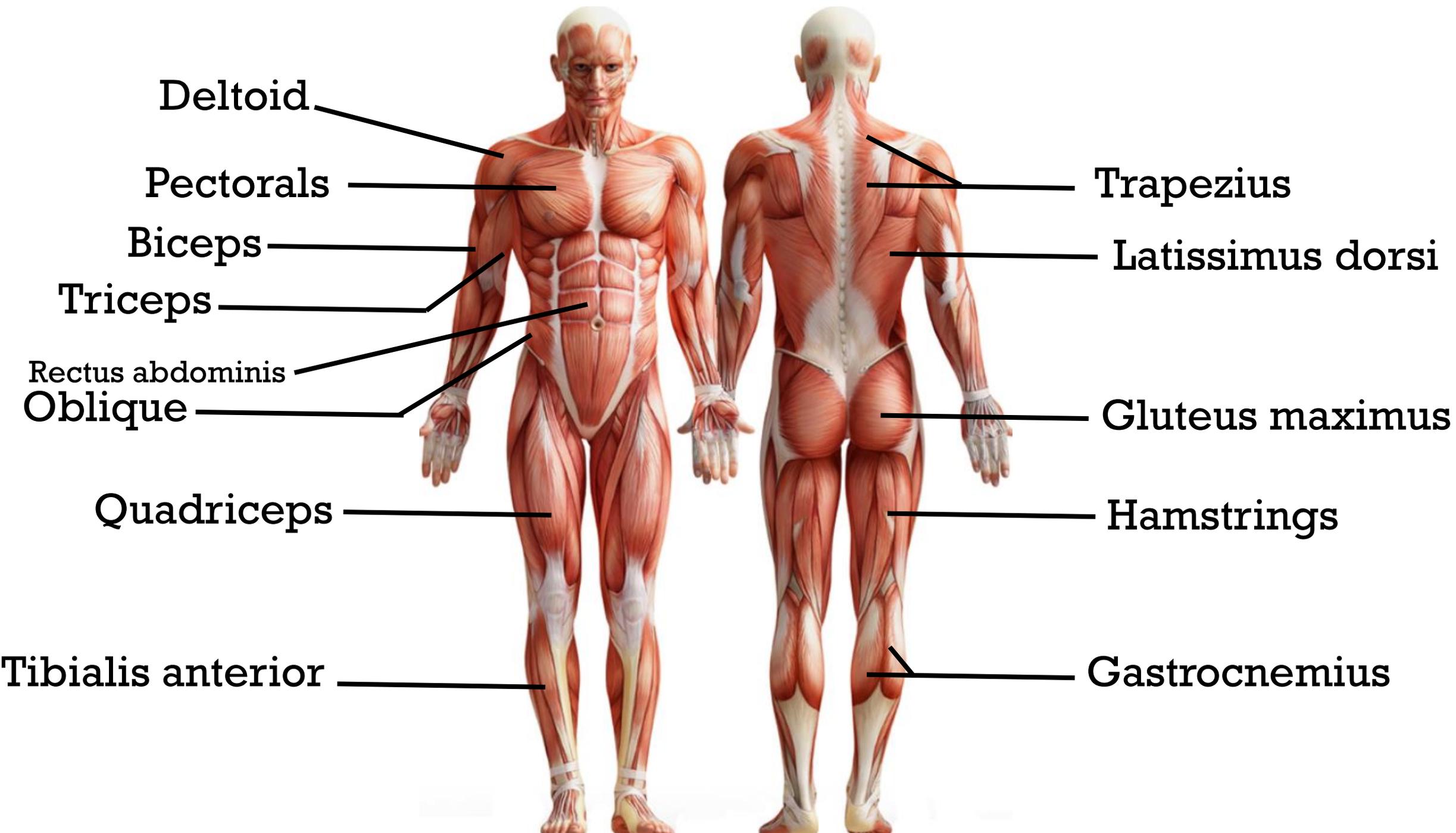
**Circumduction** – moving in a circle at a joint

Deltoid

Pectorals







Deltoid  
Pectorals  
Biceps  
Triceps  
Rectus abdominis  
Oblique  
Quadriceps  
Tibialis anterior

Trapezius  
Latissimus dorsi  
Gluteus maximus  
Hamstrings  
Gastrocnemius

# Muscles and their Functions

**Biceps** – flexes lower arm

**Deltoid** – abducts arm; injection site

**Gastrocnemius** – flexes sole of feet

**Latissimus dorsi** – extends & adducts upper arm

**Pectoralis major** – adducts and flexes upper arm

**Intercostals** – moves ribs for breathing

# Muscles and their Functions

**Trapezius** – extends head, moves shoulder

**Triceps** – extends lower arm

**Gluteus maximus** – extends thigh; injection site

**Rectus abdominus** – compresses the abdomen

**Rectus femoris** – flexes thigh & extends lower leg

**Tibialis anterior** – flexes and inverts foot

# Muscular Disorders

## **FIBROMYALGIA**

**Description:** Chronic, widespread pain in specific muscle site; numbness and tingling in arms or legs; Often accompanied by fatigue as well as sleep, memory and mood issues

**Cause:** unknown

**Treatment:** Treat symptoms – pain relief; stress reduction and muscle relaxers

# Muscular Disorders, etc

## **MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY**

**Description and cause:** Group of inherited diseases that cause chronic, progressive muscle atrophy resulting in total disability and early death

**Treatment:** No cure

Treatment used to slow progression of disease

# Muscular Disorders, etc

## MYASTHENIA GRAVIS

**Description:** Chronic condition where nerve impulses are not transmitted correctly leading to progressive muscular weakness and paralysis; affects respiratory muscles and can be fatal

**Cause:** could be antibodies attacking the receptors for acetylcholine; could also be antibodies blocking the function of certain proteins

**Treatment:** Medications to relieve symptoms

# Muscular Disorders, etc

## **MUSCLE SPASMS/CRAMPS**

**Description:** Sudden, painful involuntary muscle contractions

**Causes:** Caused from overexertion, low electrolytes or poor circulation

**Treatment:** Treat by applying gentle pressure and stretching of the affected muscle

# Muscular Disorders, etc

## **STRAIN**

**Description:** Overstretching of a muscle or tendon frequently in legs, back or arms

**Cause:** Caused by sudden muscle exertion

**Treatment:** Treated by resting, muscle relaxants, or pain medications, elevation of extremity and applying hot/cold compresses

# Problems from Lack of Movement

## **Contractures**

Tightening and shortening of a muscle resulting in a permanent flexing of a joint

## **Muscle atrophy**

Muscles become weak and joints become stiff

## **Circulatory impairment**

Blood clots and pressure ulcers can develop

# Problems from Lack of Movement

## **Mineral loss**

Especially calcium from the bones making bones brittle and easily to be fractured

## **Other problems**

Poor appetite; constipation; urinary infections; respiratory problems; and pneumonia

# **Good Body Mechanics**

- **Maintain broad base of support (8-10 in.)**
- **Bend from hips and knees to get close to object**
- **Use strongest muscles: shoulders, arms, hips, thighs**
- **Use weight of body to help push/pull**
- **Carry heavy objects close**
- **Avoid twisting body; turn whole body when changing direction**
- **Avoid bending for long periods**
- **Get help if object is too heavy**