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How to Perform your Breast Self Exam Look for Changes

At The Mirror:

(with good light)

- First . . . relax, sitting or standing, whichever is comfortable.
- With your arms at your sides, look for changes in your breasts -lumps, thickenings, dimples or skin changes.



 Now, with your hands on your hips, press down and tense your chest muscles. This will make any changes more prominent.



 Next...raise your arms above your head, again, looking for the same changes.





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Feel for Changes

In the Shower:

- Start by raising your right arm behind your head.
- With your left hand soaped, fingers held flat together, roll and press the breast firmly against the chest wall.
- Starting at the underarm area, feel a small area of the breast at a time, moving your fingers in small circles. Go up and down in vertical strips until the entire breast has been checked.
- Now repeat, raising your left arm and checking your left breast with your right hand.





Vertical

Lying Down:

- Lie down on your back and get comfortable.
- Then . . . place a pillow under your right shoulder.
- Now simply repeat the process you went through in the shower, examining your right breast with your left hand.
- Move the pillow under your left shoulder and examine your left breast with your right hand.

And that's all there is to it! But don't forget, if you find a problem, phone your doctor right away.



Remember! Your Breast Self-Exam (BSE) is not complete until you have done all three parts of the exam.