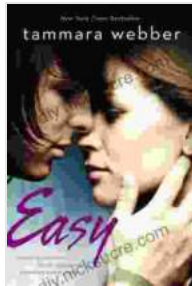


# Easy Contours of the Heart: A Comprehensive Guide to the Heart's Anatomy and Function



## Easy (Contours of the Heart Book 1) by Tammara Webber

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language : English  
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Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 338 pages



The heart is a vital organ that pumps blood throughout the body, supplying oxygen and nutrients to the cells and removing waste products. It is located in the center of the chest, slightly to the left, and is approximately the size of a clenched fist.

The heart is a complex organ with a intricate anatomy. This guide will provide a comprehensive overview of the heart's anatomy and function, including the heart's chambers, valves, blood vessels, and electrical system.

## Chambers of the Heart

The heart is divided into four chambers: two atria and two ventricles.

- **Right atrium:** The right atrium receives blood from the body through two large veins called the superior vena cava and the inferior vena cava.
- **Left atrium:** The left atrium receives blood from the lungs through four pulmonary veins.
- **Right ventricle:** The right ventricle pumps blood to the lungs through the pulmonary artery.
- **Left ventricle:** The left ventricle pumps blood to the rest of the body through the aorta.

The atria are the receiving chambers of the heart, while the ventricles are the pumping chambers.

## Valves of the Heart

The heart valves prevent blood from flowing backward through the heart.

- **Tricuspid valve:** The tricuspid valve is located between the right atrium and right ventricle.
- **Pulmonary valve:** The pulmonary valve is located between the right ventricle and pulmonary artery.
- **Mitral valve:** The mitral valve is located between the left atrium and left ventricle.
- **Aortic valve:** The aortic valve is located between the left ventricle and aorta.

The valves open and close in a coordinated fashion to ensure that blood flows in the correct direction.

## **Blood Vessels of the Heart**

The heart is supplied with blood by the coronary arteries and drained by the coronary veins.

- **Coronary arteries:** The coronary arteries branch off from the aorta and supply blood to the heart muscle.
- **Coronary veins:** The coronary veins collect blood from the heart muscle and return it to the right atrium.

The coronary arteries are essential for the heart's function, as they supply the heart muscle with the oxygen and nutrients it needs to pump blood.

## **Electrical System of the Heart**

The heart's electrical system controls the heart's rhythm and rate.

- **Sinoatrial node (SA node):** The SA node is located in the right atrium and is the natural pacemaker of the heart.
- **Atrioventricular node (AV node):** The AV node is located between the atria and ventricles and delays the electrical impulse before it reaches the ventricles.
- **Bundle of His:** The bundle of His is a group of fibers that conducts the electrical impulse from the AV node to the ventricles.
- **Purkinje fibers:** The Purkinje fibers are a network of fibers that distribute the electrical impulse throughout the ventricles.

The electrical system of the heart ensures that the heart contracts in a coordinated fashion, which is essential for pumping blood efficiently.

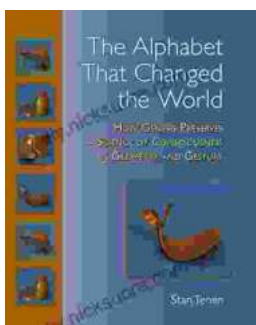
The heart is a complex organ with a intricate anatomy and function. This guide has provided a comprehensive overview of the heart's chambers, valves, blood vessels, and electrical system. Understanding the heart's anatomy and function is essential for maintaining a healthy heart and preventing heart disease.



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