

Breast Self-Examination (BSE)

- Is a screening method used to detect early breast cancer.
- Is a simple, no cost, and does not require any use of special materials or tool since it will only take a few minutes to complete.
- This screening method is an important source of information that every woman needs in order to improve awareness among others and oneself.





Five steps on how to do a Breast Self-Examination (BSE)

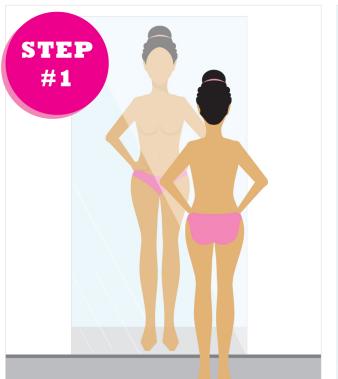
Step #1: Begin by looking at your breasts in the mirror with your shoulders straight and your arms on your hips.

What should you look for are:

- Breasts that are their usual size, shape, and color.
- Breasts that are evenly shaped without visible distortion or swelling.

If you see any of the following changes, bring them to your doctor's attention:

- Dimpling, puckering, or bulging of the skin.
- A nipple that has changed position or an inverted nipple (pushed inward instead of sticking out)
- Redness, soreness, rash, or swelling.





STEP #2

<u>Step #2:</u>

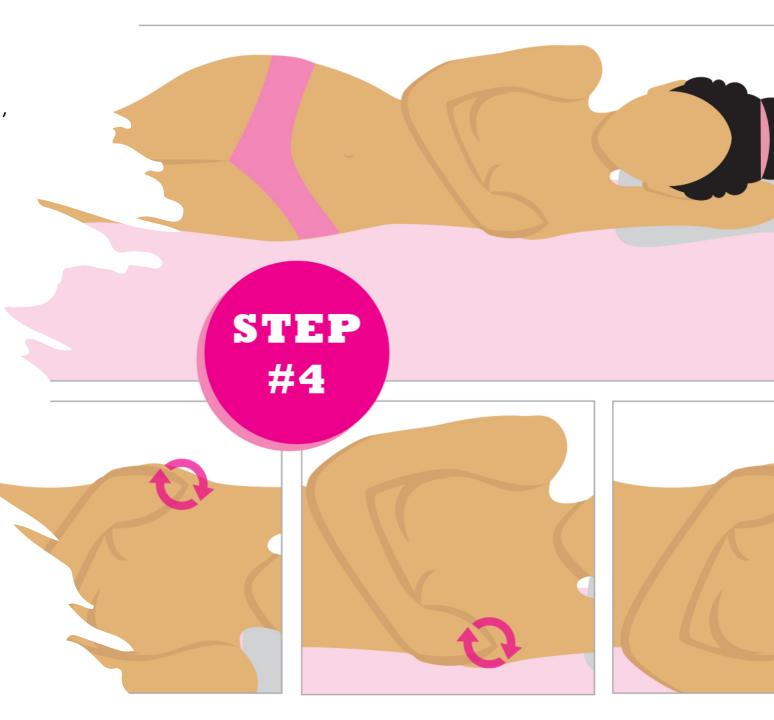
 Raise your arms and look for the same changes.

Step #3:

 While you're at the mirror, look for any signs of fluids coming out of one or both nipples (this could be a watery, milky, or yellow fluid or blood).

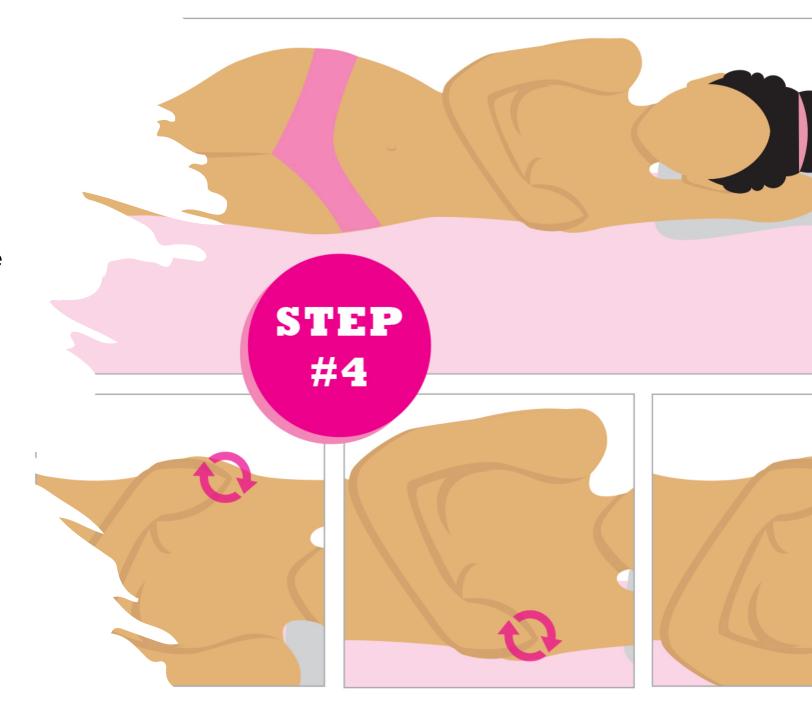
<u>Step #4:</u>

- Next, feel your breasts while lying down, using your right hand to feel your left breast and then your left hand to feel your right breast.
- Use a firm, smooth touch with the first few fingers pads of your hand (Index, Middle, Ring).
- Keeping the fingers flat and together.
- Use a circular motion, about the size of a quarter.
- Cover the entire breast from top to bottom, side to side.
- Be sure to feel all the tissues from the from the front to the back of your breast.



<u>Step #4:</u>

- For the skin and tissue just beneath, use light pressure.
- Use medium pressure for tissue in the middle of your breast.
- Use firm pressure for the deep tissue in the back.
- When you've reached the deep tissue, you should be able to feel down to your ribcage.



Step #5:

- Finally, feel your breasts while you are standing or sitting.
- Many women find that the easiest way to feel their breasts is when their skin is wet and slippery, so they like to do this step in the shower.
- Cover your entire breast, using the same hand movements described in step 4.

