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Nail Structure & Growth

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| **Across****3.** Thin layer of tissue that attaches the nail plate and the nail bed**6.** Folds of normal skin that surround the natural nail plate.**10.** AKA the ONYX; the hard protective plate is composed mainly of keratin, the same fibrous protein found in skin and hair.**12.** Composed of several major parts of the fingernail including the nail plate, nail bed, matrix, cuticle, eponychium, hyponychium, specialized ligaments, and nail fold.**13.** Slightly thickened layer of skin under the nail that lies between the fingertip and free edge of the natural nail plate**15.** Tough band of fibrous tissue that connects bones or holds an organ in place.**16.** Furrow on each side of the nail**17.** part of the nail plate that extends over the tip of the finger or toe | **Down****1.** Area where the nail plate cells are formed; this area is composed of matrix cells that produce the nail plate**2.** Living skin at the base of the natural nail plate that covers the matrix area**4.** When the nail is abnormal in shape or form.**5.** AKA lateral nail fold; the fold of skin overlapping the side of the nail.**7.** The tissue bordering the root and sides of a fingernail or toenail**8.** Visible part of the matrix that extends from underneath the living skin; it is the whitish, half-moon shape at the base of the nail**9.** Hardened keratin plate that sits on and covers the natural nail bed. It is the most visible and functional part of the natural nail unit.**11.** Portion of the living skin that supports the nail plate as it grows toward the free edge**14.** Dead, colorless tissue attached to the natural nail plate |