

Brain Fact Sheet — Parts of the Brain

Cerebral Cortex: right and left hemispheres

- Largest part of the brain
- Most highly developed part of the brain
- Controls thinking, perceiving, and understanding language
- Corpus callosum connects the two hemispheres
- Consists of frontal, parietal, temporal, and occipital lobes

Right hemisphere

- Controls the left side of the body
- Responsible for artistic expression and understanding relationships in space

Left hemisphere

- Controls the right side of the body
- Responsible for mathematical ability, problem solving, language, and decision making

Cerebellum

- Controls posture, movement, and sense of balance

Brain Stem: two main parts - pons and medulla

- Brain's most primitive part
- Controls simple reflexes, such as coughing, sneezing, and digestion
- Pons contains the fibers that connect the cerebral cortex with the cerebellum and spinal cord, and also controls sleep, awakening, and dream onset
- The medulla controls heart rate, respiration, and blood pressure

Limbic System: two main parts - hippocampus and amygdala

- Hippocampus is responsible for learning and memory
 - Amygdala plays an important role in emotional behavior
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Brain Fact Sheet — Lobes of the Cerebral Cortex

Frontal lobe

- Located behind the forehead, extending back to the parietal lobe
- Responsible for initiating and coordinating motor movements and higher cognitive skills like problem solving and thinking

Parietal lobe

- Located behind the frontal lobe
- Processes sensory information from the whole body (information about pain, touch, and pressure)

Occipital lobe

- Located in the back of the brain
- Processes all the visual information coming into the brain

Temporal lobe

- Located behind the temples and just above the ears
- In charge of making sense of the information you hear
- Integrates information from various senses, such as smell and vision

Brain Instruction Sheet

