

RELEASE

The following is the developmental sequence of release.

0–9 months

- Drops objects

9 months

- Releases against another surface

10 months

- Exhibits crude release, systematic dropping (voluntary)

11 months

- Releases large objects with ease, clumsy
- Releases small objects

12 months

- Exhibits smooth voluntary release of large objects
- Exhibits crude but voluntary release of small objects

15 months

- Exhibits voluntary smooth controlled release of all objects

GRASP

The following is the developmental sequence of grasp.

12 weeks	Reflexive, ulnar side strongest
16 weeks	Ulnar side weakening
20 weeks	Primitive squeeze; no thumb or palm involved; raking
24 weeks	Palmar; no thumb participation
28 weeks	Radial palmar; whole hand grasp, thumb adducted
32 weeks	Scissors, thumb abducted to side curled index finger
36 weeks	Radial digital, thumb opposed to end of fingers
40 weeks	Inferior finger, thumb moves toward dip joint of index finger; other fingers inhibited
44 weeks	Neat pincer, with slight wrist extension
52 weeks	Opposed grasp
3–4 years	Static tripod posture; pencil grasped proximally; crude approximation of thumb, index, and middle fingers; continual adjustments by other hand; ring and little fingers only slightly flexed, no fine, localized movements of components
4–6 years	Dynamic tripod posture; pencil grasped distally; precise opposition of distal phalanges of thumb, index, and middle fingers; ring and little fingers flexed to form stable arch; metal-carpal joints stabilized during fine localized movements of interphalangeal joints Lateral prehension; key or card held between pad of thumb and lateral surface of index near dip joint Spherical grasp; ball or door knob grasped with flexion at all finger joints, hand cupped over object Cylindrical grasp; small jar or large peg

These ages are approximations and may vary when other resources are used. This is not designed to be a complete description at each age level. Use as a quick reference.