

One small step for a man

One giant leap for mankind



***THE UNIQUE
HUMAN FOOT***

INTRODUCTION

Everyone is familiar with the ape to man storyline spun by evolutionists. If true, this means that the key features that make us human must have begun to emerge in a proto-human. The human foot is one such feature since our ability to walk upright separates us from apes, and is determined by the unique anatomy of our feet. If evolution is true, transitional feet (at various stages) should be visible in the fossil record. If the divergence of such a dramatic feature in the fossil record can't be found, the entire notion of the slowly evolving and improving animal kingdom is simply not science. Evolutionists claim that humans diverged from ape like creatures as they evolved. A key stage would have been the transition to bipedal walking, since apes walk on all fours. This transition marks the change between a foot suited to grasping trees etc, and one suited for walking. If evolution had actually happened, we should be able to identify how and when our feet began to diverge from the descent line seen today in the feet of chimpanzees. In this leaflet we review what evolutionists say about feet and look at how the human foot is irreducibly complex i.e. non-viable unless it is complete. No workable foot could or does exist halfway between that of the chimp and human.

The journal *Evolutionary Anthropology*¹ said the following:

"There are 26 bones in each foot (52 in total), meaning that roughly a quarter of the human skeleton consists of foot bones. Yet, early hominin foot fossils are frustratingly rare, making it quite difficult to reconstruct the evolutionary history of the human foot".

"Man's foot is all his own. It is unlike any other foot. It is the most distinctly human part of his whole anatomical makeup. It is a human specialization and, whether he is proud of it or not, it is his hallmark".

"One of the things we can say with certainty is that the modern human foot did not evolve from the chimpanzee's foot".

"We haven't yet identified the last common ancestor we shared with [the] chimpanzee".



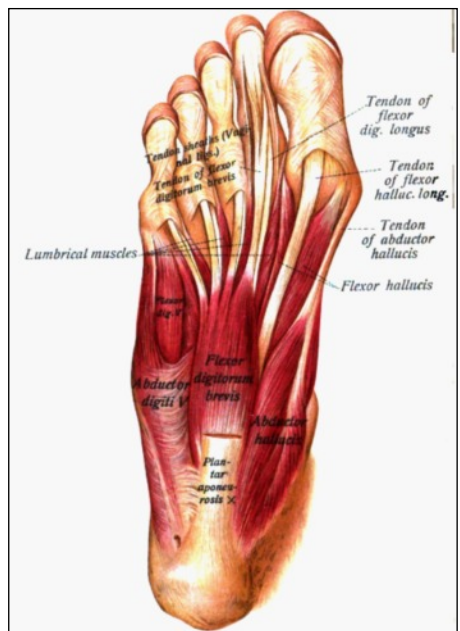
FOOT BONES by Raul 654 CC BY-SA 3.0

The anthropologist Krystal D'Costa put it this way: “Our feet stand us up. The bones that make up the feet represent a quarter of the human skeleton, and yet, despite comprising such a large percentage of the body, they have largely eluded us in the fossil record until recently”, and “The story, while incomplete, remains no less fascinating than it was hundreds of years ago when all we had was a comparative assessment”. No evidence is actually presented regarding the proposed evolutionary origin of human feet. The articles merely outline the (substantial) differences. Because, and only because of their prior commitment to evolution, the authors are driven to search for similarities. This is so that they can detail what would be required for the evolution of feet as opposed to describing what actually took place. Listing the differences between an orange and a football doesn’t prove oranges make good footballs, and these articles restrict themselves in the same way. Unfortunately for the evolutionist, describing the changes required is not evidence that these changes took place.

FEET FEATURES

We have to ask: “What is the difference between a human foot and that of a chimpanzee?” The magazine *Scientific American*² says this: “The former’s foot is adapted for a stiff push-off which is necessary for bipedal locomotion. The latter’s foot maintains greater flexibility overall and grasping abilities that enable climbing trees as well as quadrupedalism on the ground”

Apes are unable to walk upright because their feet are designed for grasping, allowing them to hold branches etc, something human feet cannot do. Indeed, the grasping function of the ape’s foot is similar to the human hand. Humans doing handstands are unable to walk very far, for exactly the same reasons. The little differences become important. When grasping, our fingers need to curl inwards around an object, while our toes flex outwards in the opposite direction as we walk, and we move into a “tip toe” position, giving us a platform with which to balance and then push off. When running, we land on a tipped-toe platform. Shock loading from running impacts are absorbed by the foot and leg muscles which provide us with an efficient suspension system.



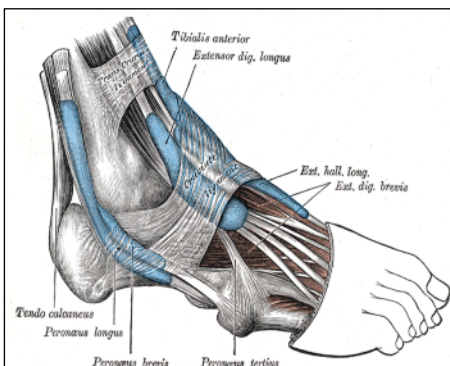
HUMAN FOOT ANATOMY PUBLIC DOMAIN IMAGE

Our feet have many bones for similar reasons. Bones are relatively stiff structures when compared to muscle, meaning that they cannot absorb impact energy to the same degree. If one hypothesised a simple foot design with two or three large bones, it would be unable to flex during impact. All of the forces absorbed by the leg of a running person would have to be borne by bone, requiring massively thick and heavy structures in order to avoid breaking. By having many small bones interconnected by overlapping muscles and ligaments, as the foot changes shape the absorption of shock loading is by muscles and other soft tissues.

By contrast, a chimp's foot (and that of other apes) doesn't have these high stiffness muscles, which is why they can flex and curl the "fingers" of the foot around branches etc. The feet "fingers" of a chimp curl in the opposite direction to our toes. Try bending your fingers backwards. To illustrate the differences, ask yourself how useful would your hand be if your fingers could bend backwards? It is these and many other features of our feet that make walking and running possible, which are the very reasons why apes are prevented from walking upright for any significant distance. Evolutionists need to show how a grasping foot transformed into a "stiff" foot from the fossil record when showing the ascent of man. They are unable to do this.



CHIMPANZEE by RENNETT STOWE CCA 2.0



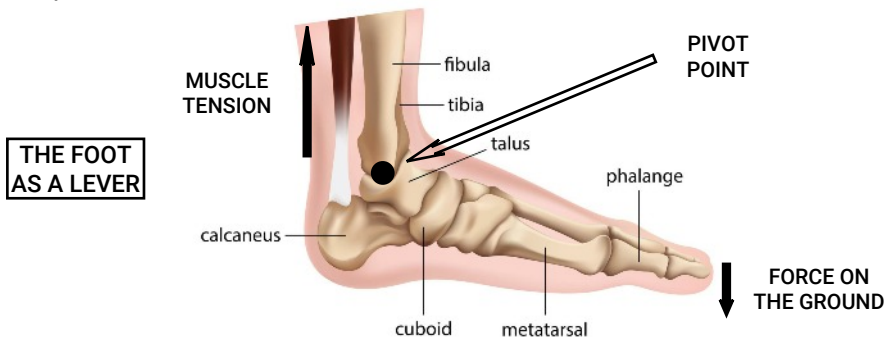
HUMAN FOOT/GRAY'S ANATOMY PUBLIC DOMAIN IMAGE

FOOT DESIGN

Looking at the human foot as a complex arrangement of levers, you can see how the Achilles tendon acts like a piece of string. When your calf muscle contracts, it pulls the tendon, lifting your heel, making your foot swivel at the ankle joint. By bending your foot at the ball it allows your toes to remain firmly and securely planted on the ground, giving a flat area for grip as your body pushes forward into the next step.

FOOT MECHANICS

The foot is roughly five times longer than the distance between your heel and ankle. This means that your Achilles tendon has to transmit a force of five times your body weight. Therefore, the tendon needs to be extremely well attached to the heel; in fact the heel bone has a hole into which the tendon goes allowing it to secure itself inside your heel. As the heel moves up and down so will the tendon. Therefore, it needs to be contained within a tube, or sheath (like a brake cable on a bicycle). The sheath is held in position by other soft tissue structures, and like other moving parts, a lubricant is required. The ankle joint needs to bear high loads, and needs to be flexible, but not so flexible that your ankle rolls sideways (as happens when you sprain your ankle). We have a few more tendons: one set is used to control our toe movement, which can again be likened to lengths of string attached to muscles in our calf. These muscles pull on and/or hold the tendon tight, which controls toe movement. Because it is in tension, the tendon runs under the sole of the foot and through some holes in the ankle bone. It needs other soft tissue to keep it correctly located. This shows that the human foot is an exceedingly complex structure and is irreducibly complex. If a single part were missing, it would be useless. It is so different in design from the grasping foot of the chimpanzee that a half-way stage between the two is not possible.



[href="https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/bone"](https://www.vecteezy.com/free-vector/bone)>Bone Vectors by Vecteezy

If a hypothetical creature were to exist, having feet that were part ape and part human, it could neither walk nor climb trees. According to the theory of evolution and natural selection, it would have been quickly eliminated. There is, therefore, no valid evolutionary path between the ape and man.

Once again, we see how evolutionists are operating from a prior determined viewpoint. They are unable to present any credible evidence for the evolution of the human foot. The authors of the articles that this leaflet is based upon confuse the listing of changes required for foot evolution with proof that such change occurred (they mistakenly assume evolution to be a fact). The authors of many other academic papers are similar. The obvious conclusion is that the human foot was designed for bipedal walking, and did not evolve.

CONCLUSIONS

The opposite photograph shows why a monkey would never evolve into a human. Apes with grasping feet are very successful in their environment. They have no need to change into anything else. They do not need to walk upright. They do not need to use tools. They do not need to appreciate maths or Mozart. Essentially there is no motivation for change even if evolution were possible. The same is true for all other creatures in the world. A fish has no need to grow legs. A dinosaur has no need to grow wings. We are told blatant fairy stories by biologists who refuse to believe in a creator God. Every "expert" has a theory as to how their pet trait evolved but they don't realise that this plethora of changes could not happen simultaneously.



Developing walking feet from grasping feet would not enable a monkey to walk like a man or woman. Changes would be needed to the pelvis, hip joint, knee joint, leg length, vertebral column and of course the brain. These would need to be coordinated changes. No evolutionary process could produce these. God designed and created all life. He made each creature to be ideal for its lifestyle. Humans are the pinnacle of God's creation, made in his image, and we are accountable to him. We need to acknowledge our creator and realise that we are beholden to him for our lives in this world and the next.

References:

1. Evolutionary Anthropology, Volume 27, Issue 5 September/October 2018 Pages 197-217
2. Scientific American October 3, 2018

Pamphlet 424 May 2021 by Christopher Wainwright M Eng

Creation Science Movement



registered charity 801745 The world's oldest creationist organisation founded in 1932

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