



Hairline evolution as simple as ABC/123

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Hairlines show a migration from a basic concave shape at a well-defined anatomical position in early childhood to significantly different shapes and positions as an individual ages. For understanding the focus of this paper, you should not focus on traditional patterns of hair loss as defined by Norwood and Ludwig, although Ludwig showed hair in the frontal hairline zone when significant female balding was present.^{1,2} Hair loss will not be addressed, but rather the normal evolution of a hairline in non-balding and balding people will be covered. In addition, the changes in the hairlines that are discussed here are not a reflection of the “disease” we often attribute to androgenetic alopecia. (See Figure 1.)

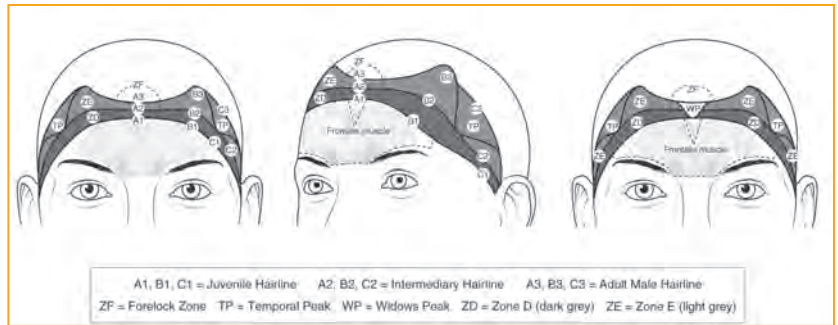


Figure 1. Hairline zones and area locations.⁴

All young children, no matter what racial identity, start with a concave hairline shape. The midline always lies just above the crease of the furrowed brow. This concave hairline shape evolves as the hairline recedes upward and laterally with age. At the sides of the hairline just above and in front of the ears, there are temple mounds that appear as the side hairline recedes from the smooth continuation of the leading edge of the hairline. The temple mounds are buried within the smooth continuation of the leading edge of the hairline, not showing a “mound shape” while the full concave juvenile hairline is present. In a child’s hairline, there is never a widow’s peak or temple peaks because the hairline is always a continuous and smooth circular shape hiding what may eventually become temple mounds, temple peaks, and a widow’s peak. We studied the hairlines of 1,051 children from their annual school yearbooks to draw this conclusion.⁴ We also studied hundreds of boys’ and girls’ swim teams posted on the internet and we viewed a large number of Olympic athletes on TV at the 2012 Olympics. We extended our search to shopping malls and airports studying men and women passing by. It was clear from these randomized observations that the hairlines of men and women vary in patterns and that these patterns reflect a classic phenotype that is most certainly tied to the genetic proclivities of the anatomic hairline.

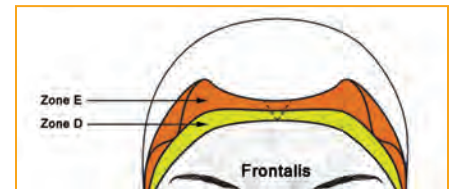


Figure 2. Hairline Zones D and E show where the temple peaks and the widow’s peak will appear with aging.

Areas such as the widow’s peak and the temple peaks appear as the hairlines recede and arise from within the confines of the concave child’s hairline. The shape of these peaks, when they remain, must certainly reflect a different genetic code than the surrounding areas (the hairline zone lateral to the widow’s peak and the hairline zone above and below the temple peaks). For labeling purposes (see Figures 2 and 3), we have identified what we believe are the areas of interest and illustrated them. We divided the hairline into Zones D and E with distinct lines along the borders of the leading edges of these zones (A, B, and C). The widow’s peak and temple peaks are found within Zones D and E. Figure 4 shows (1) a typical example of a concave hairline in a 40+-year-old female that almost certainly reflects her original hairline from childhood with some early thinning of the leading edge and (2) another 40+-year-old

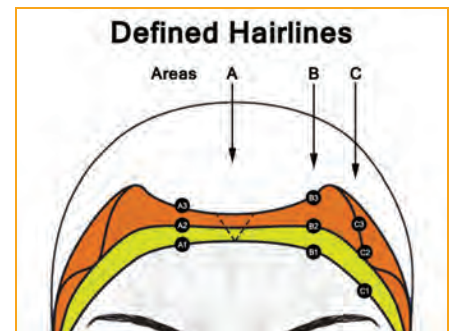


Figure 3. The hairline areas are divided into A, B, and C, and the hairlines levels are divided into 1, 2, and 3.

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