

Physical and Chemical Changes in Digestion

Organ	What type of changes occur in this area of the body?	
	Physical Changes	Chemical Changes
Mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food is torn into smaller pieces by the teeth Food is mixed with saliva 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saliva begins to break down carbohydrates (starches) in the mouth
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Stomach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food, hydrochloric acid, and other digestive juices are mixed by the muscular contractions of the stomach wall to form chyme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proteins are broken down by hydrochloric acid
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Small Intestine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The chyme or “food mush” is mixed with digestive juices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fats, proteins, and carbohydrates are broken down into smaller, different molecules that can be absorbed by the body’s cells
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Large intestine (colon)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water is absorbed back into the body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bacteria breaks down some undigested materials and helps produce certain vitamins