

Abortion Pills Comparison

| | Mifepristone and Misoprostol | Misoprostol Alone |
|---|---|---|
| How far along in the pregnancy can I be? | Up to 11 weeks from the first day of your last period. | Up to 12 weeks from the first day of your last period.* |
| How do I take the pills? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You swallow the mifepristone at a time that works best for you. You may have some nausea after the first pill. 6-72 hours later, you insert 4 misoprostol pills. <p><i>If your pregnancy is 9-11 weeks, you need to repeat the misoprostol: insert 4 pills 4 hours later.</i></p> | You place 4 misoprostol pills every 3 hours, 3 times in a row, for a total of 12 pills. |
| How do I insert misoprostol? | You put misoprostol pills inside your cheek, under your tongue, or in your vagina. You swallow or throw out what's left of the pills after 30 minutes. | |
| What will happen? | <p>You may have loose stools, fever, or chills.</p> <p>You may or may not have some bleeding after taking mifepristone. Most of the cramping and bleeding starts a few hours after you insert the misoprostol. You will have heavy bleeding and cramps for a few hours.</p> | <p>You may have loose stools, fever, or chills.</p> <p>The cramping and bleeding starts after you insert the misoprostol. Heavy bleeding may start after the first, second, or third dose. You will have heavy bleeding and cramps for a few hours.</p> |
| How do I know if it worked? | <p>You had cramping and bleeding.</p> <p>You had a negative pregnancy test four weeks later.</p> <p>You no longer feel pregnant.</p> | |
| What isn't normal? | <p>Contact a clinician if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You have no bleeding. (This may mean the pills didn't work.) - You threw up less than 30 minutes after taking mifepristone. - You have a fever of 100.4 or higher more than 24 hours after taking misoprostol. - You have severe belly pain that does not go away with pain pills. - You still feel like you are pregnant. | |

*Beyond 12 weeks, consult a clinician or [M+A Hotline \(1-833-246-2632\)](tel:1-833-246-2632)

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| When might I need more medication | <p>A clinician may suggest an extra dose of misoprostol if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You had no bleeding. - You have bleeding for more than a month. | |
| How painful is it? | <p>This varies a lot from one person to another. You may have mild to very strong cramps off and on during the abortion. Pain pills like ibuprofen and naproxen help.</p> | |
| How much will I bleed? | <p>Expect heavy bleeding with clots for a few hours. After that, you may have lighter bleeding off and on for a few weeks.</p> | |
| How much do the pills cost? | <p>The cost varies. \$400-600 is the average cost for an in-clinic abortion. \$150+ is the average cost for a telehealth abortion.</p> <p>Misoprostol pills cost less than mifepristone.</p> | |
| Are the pills safe? | <p>The pills are safe. Big problems are rare.</p> <p>These pills may not be safe for you if you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are pregnant with an IUD - Are taking medicine to thin your blood - Are having signs of an ectopic pregnancy like sharp pain on one side of your lower belly | |
| Can the pills fail? | <p>The pills work 98-99% of the time. If the pills fail, you may try the pills again or have an abortion procedure.</p> | <p>These pills work 80-95% of the time. If the pills fail, you may try the pills again or have an abortion procedure.</p> |
| Can I still have children afterwards? | <p>Yes. Abortion pills have no effect on future pregnancies. You can get pregnant again right away.</p> | |
| Where can I get more details about how to get and use these pills? | <p>How to Use Abortion Pills Fact Sheet</p> <p>How to Use Misoprostol-Only for a Medication Abortion</p> <p>Plan C Guide to Abortion Pills</p> <p>https://abortionpillinfo.org/</p> <p>M+A Hotline</p> | |
| Where can I get more help? | <p>If/When/How: Repro Legal Helpline</p> <p>Digital Defense Fund</p> | |