

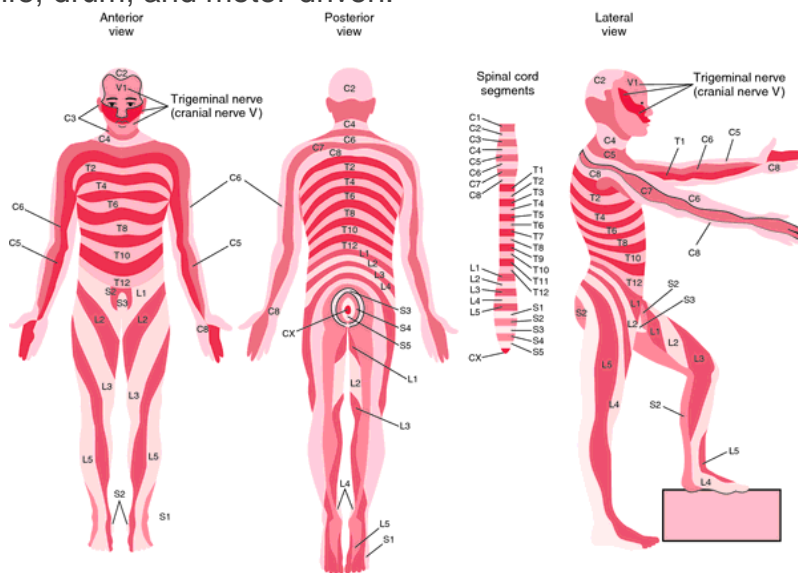
# DERMATOME

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dermatome

[der'mah-tōm]

1. the area of skin supplied with afferent nerve fibers by a single posterior spinal root.
2. the lateral part of an embryonic somite.
3. an instrument for removing split-thickness skin grafts from donor sites; there are many different kinds, divided into three major types: knife, drum, and motor-driven.



Dermatomes. Segmental dermatome distribution of spinal nerves to the front, back, and side of the body. *C*, Cervical segments; *T*, thoracic segments; *L*, lumbar segments; *S*, sacral segments; *CX*, coccygeal segment. Dermatomes are specific skin surface areas innervated by a single spinal nerve or group of spinal nerves. Dermatome assessment is done to determine the level of spinal anesthesia for surgical procedures and postoperative analgesia when epidural local anesthetics are used. From Thibodeau and Patton, 1999.

**drum dermatome** a dermatome consisting of a cylindrical drumlike apparatus coated with adhesive that rolls over the skin while a blade moves across the surface and cuts the graft free.

**knife dermatome** the simplest type of dermatome, which is used to remove grafts by a freehand technique.

**motor-driven dermatome** a dermatome driven by a power source; motor-driven dermatomes cut with a back-and-forth blade action.

Miller-Keane Encyclopedia and Dictionary of Medicine, Nursing, and Allied Health, Seventh Edition. © 2003 by Saunders, an imprint of Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved.

der·ma·tome

(der'mă-tōm),

1. A power-driven or mechanical instrument used to cut thin sections of epidermis or dermis for grafting, or to excise small lesions.
2. The dorsolateral part of an embryonic somite. Synonym(s): [cutis plate](#)
3. The area of skin supplied by cutaneous branches of a single cranial or spinal nerve; neighboring dermatomes can overlap. Synonym(s): [dermatomal distribution](#), [dermatomic area](#)

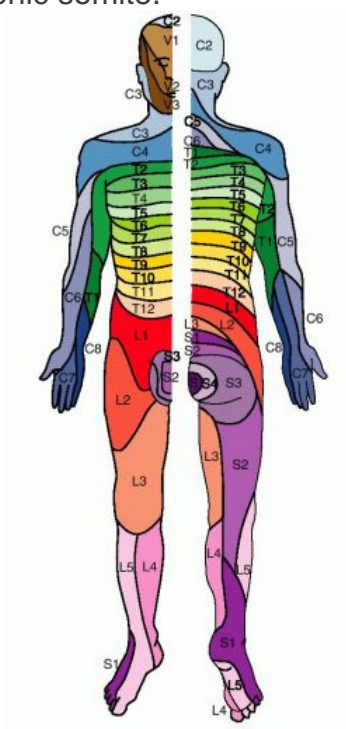
[dermato- + G. *tomē*, a cutting]

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dermatome

/der·ma·tome/ (der'mah-tōm)

1. an instrument for cutting thin skin slices for grafting.
2. the area of skin supplied with afferent nerve fibers by a single posterior spinal root.
3. the lateral part of an embryonic somite.



Harvesting of a large split-thickness skin graft with an electric dermatome.

Dorland's Medical Dictionary for Health Consumers. © 2007 by Saunders, an imprint of Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved.

dermatome

(dûr'mə-tōm')

*n.*

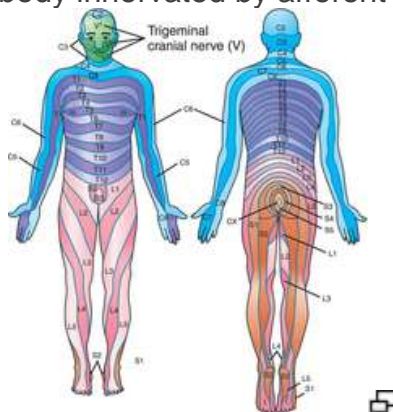
1. *Anatomy* An area of skin innervated by sensory fibers from a single spinal nerve.
  2. *Medicine* An instrument used in cutting thin slices of the skin, as for skin grafts.
  3. *Embryology* The part of a mesodermal somite from which the dermis develops.
- The American Heritage® Medical Dictionary Copyright © 2007, 2004 by Houghton Mifflin Company. Published by [Houghton Mifflin Company](#). All rights reserved.

dermatome

[dur'mətōm]

Etymology: Gk, *derma* + *temnein*, to cut

- 1 (in embryology) the mesodermal layer in the early developing embryo that gives rise to the dermal layers of the skin.
- 2 (in surgery) an instrument used to cut thin slices of skin for grafting.
- 3 an area on the surface of a body innervated by afferent fibers from one spinal root.



Dermatome distribution of spinal nerves

Mosby's Medical Dictionary, 9th edition. © 2009, Elsevier.

der·ma·tome

(dĕr'mă-tōm)

1. An instrument for cutting thin slices of skin for grafting, or excising small lesions.
2. The dorsolateral part of an embryonic somite.

Synonym(s): [cutis plate](#).

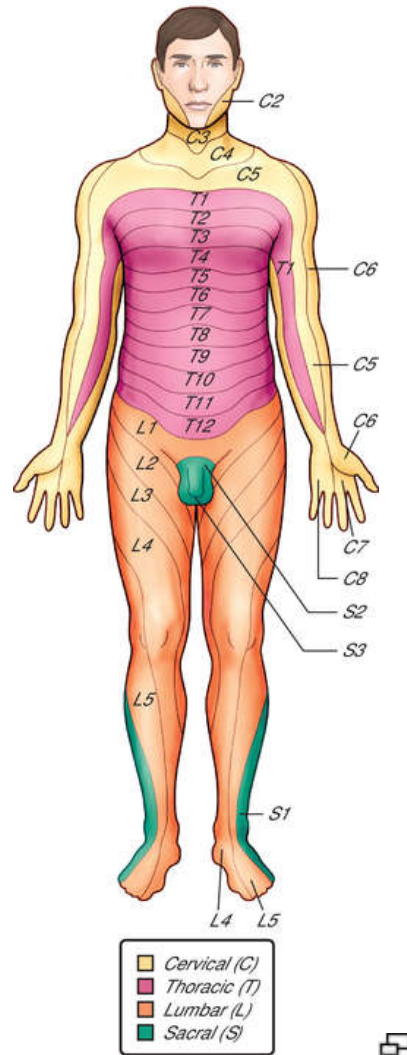
3. The area of skin supplied by cutaneous branches from a single spinal nerve; neighboring dermatomes may overlap.

Medical Dictionary for the Health Professions and Nursing © Farlex 2012

dermatome

(dĕr'mă-tōm) [Gr. **derma**, skin, + **tome**, incision]

1. An instrument, mechanical or manual, to shave thin layers of skin for transplantation (grafting).



## DERMATOME

2. A band or region of skin supplied by a single sensory nerve. See: *illustration*
3. The lateral portion of the somite of an embryo, where the dermis of the skin originates; the cutis plate.

Medical Dictionary, © 2009 Farlex and Partners

dermatome

1. A broad knife for taking very thin skin slices of less than full thickness (split skin) for grafting.
2. The area of skin receiving sensation from a nerve entering a single nerve root of the spinal cord.

Collins Dictionary of Medicine © Robert M. Youngson 2004, 2005

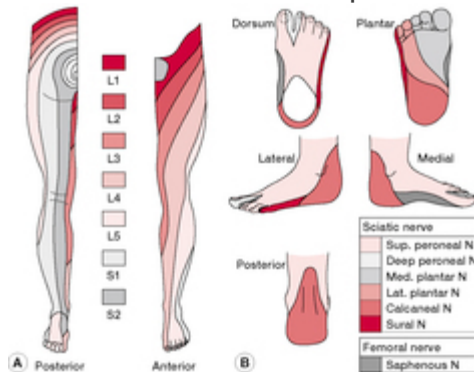
dermatome

instrument for skiving thin sections of donor skin in preparation for skin graft

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dermatome

area of skin supplied by cutaneous branches of a spinal nerve (**Figure 1**)

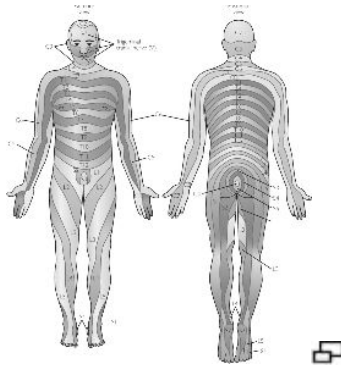


**Figure 1:** (A) Dermatomes: areas of lower limb skin supplied by cutaneous branches of spinal nerves. (B) Sensory dermatomes of the foot. This article was published in Neale's Disorders of the Foot, Lorimer, French, O'Donnell, Burrow, Wall, Copyright Elsevier, (2006).

Illustrated Dictionary of Podiatry and Foot Science by Jean Mooney © 2009 Elsevier Limited. All rights reserved.

dermatome,

*n* an area of skin innervated by a single spinal nerve and its branches. Dermatomes may overlap.



Dermatome.

Jonas: Mosby's Dictionary of Complementary and Alternative Medicine. (c) 2005, Elsevier.

der·ma·tome

(dĕr'mă-tōm)

1. An instrument for cutting thin slices of skin for grafting, or excising small lesions.
2. The dorsolateral part of an embryonic somite.

Synonym(s): [cutis plate](#).

3. Skin supplied by cutaneous branches from a single spinal nerve.

Medical Dictionary for the Dental Professions © Farlex 2012

dermatome

(dur'mətōm'),

*n* 1. an instrument for cutting thin slices or layers of skin for grafting or for sequentially removing small lesions.

2. dermatologic regions of sensory innervation supplied by particular posterior root spinal nerves.

Mosby's Dental Dictionary, 2nd edition. © 2008 Elsevier, Inc. All rights reserved.

dermatome

1. an instrument for cutting thin skin slices for grafting.
2. the area of skin supplied with afferent nerve fibers by a single dorsal spinal root.
3. the lateral part of an embryonic somite.

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### Brown dermatome

an electric or pneumatic instrument used for cutting split-thickness skin grafts.

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