

Twins are two offspring produced by the same pregnancy.

Twins can be either monozygotic ('identical'), meaning that they develop from one zygote, which splits and forms two embryos, or dizygotic ('fraternal'), meaning that each twin develops from a separate egg and each egg is fertilized by its own sperm cell.

In contrast, a fetus that develops alone in the womb is called a singleton, and the general term for one offspring of a multiple birth is multiple.

Non-related look-alikes whose resemblance parallels that of twins are referred to as doppelgangers.

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