[**Bunions**](http://www.footdoc.ca/www.FootDoc.ca/Website%20Bunion%20%28Basic%20Info%29.htm)A **bunion** is an enlargement of bone or tissue around the joint at the base of the big toe ([metatarsophalangeal joint](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metatarsophalangeal_joint%22%20%5Co%20%22Metatarsophalangeal%20joint)).The big toe ([hallux](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallux)) may turn in toward the second toe (angulation), and the tissues surrounding the joint may be swollen and tender.

The term is used to refer to the pathological bump on the side of the great toe joint. The bump is partly due to the swollen bursal sac and/or an [osseous](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osseous) (bony) anomaly on the mesophalangeal joint (where the first metatarsal bone and [hallux](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hallux) meet). The larger part of the bump is a normal part of the head of first metatarsal bone that has tilted sideways to stick out at its top.

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