

mediastinum:

It is the space between the two pleural cavities

angel of louis/horizontal imaginary line → inter vertebral disc T4/T5

Superior mediastinum	Anterior mediastinum	Middle mediastinum	Posterior mediastinum
<p>Anteriorly: manubrium sterni</p> <p>Posteriorly: upper 4 thoracic vertebrae.</p> <p>Superiorly: inlet of the thoracic cavity</p> <p>Inferiorly: the imaginary plane from the sternal angle to the lower border of T4</p>	<p>Anteriorly The body of the sternum</p> <p>Posteriorly: the pericardium and the heart</p> <p>Superiorly: the horizontal transverse thoracic plane</p> <p>Inferiorly: the diaphragm</p> <p>On each side, pleura & lung</p>	<p>Anteriorly: anterior mediastinum</p> <p>Posteriorly: posterior mediastinum</p> <p>Superiorly: The horizontal transverse thoracic plane</p> <p>Inferiorly: diaphragm</p> <p>On each side, pleura & lung</p>	<p>Anteriorly: pericardium</p> <p>Posteriorly: The bodies of T5 to T12 thoracic vertebrae</p> <p>Superiorly: The horizontal transverse thoracic plane</p> <p>Inferiorly: diaphragm</p> <p>On each side, pleura & lung</p>
<p>Contents:</p> <p>Sternohyoid & sternothyroid muscles.</p> <p>Thymus gland</p> <p>Trachea</p> <p>Oesophagus</p> <p>Right & left vagus nerves</p> <p>Right & left phrenic nerves</p> <p>Thoracic duct</p> <p>Cardiac plexus</p> <p>Lymph nodes</p> <p>Left recurrent laryngeal nerve.</p> <p>Left superior intercostal vein.</p> <p>Large veins: Right & left brachiocephalic vein. Upper half of superior vena cava</p> <p>Large arteries: Arch of the aorta Brachiocephalic artery Left common carotid artery Left subclavian artery</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <p>Thymus gland</p> <p>Superior & inferior of sterno-pericardial ligaments They connect the fibrous pericardium to the back of the body of the sternum</p> <p>Sternocostalis muscle</p> <p>Few lymph nodes.</p> <p>Loose areolar connective tissue</p> <p>Mediastinal branches of internal thoracic artery</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <p>The heart and pericardium</p> <p>Beginning & termination of:</p> <p>Aorta & pulmonary trunk</p> <p>SVC and IVC</p> <p>pulmonary veins</p>	<p>Contents:</p> <p>Oesophagus and oesophageal nerve plexus</p> <p>Descending thoracic aorta</p> <p>Thoracic duct</p> <p>Azygos, Hemiazygos & Accessory hemiazygos veins</p> <p>Right and left vagus nerves</p> <p>Sympathetic chains</p> <p>Posterior mediastinal lymph nodes</p> <p>Pre-vertebral muscles.</p> <p>Anterior longitudinal ligament</p>

trachea end in T4/T5

but during inspiration end in T6

The vagus nerve & sympathetic trunk supply serous pericardium

The phrenic nerve supply fibrous & parietal pericardium

Surface

Anterior (sternocostal) surface	Diaphragmatic (inferior) surface	Left pulmonary surface	Right pulmonary surface
the right ventricle(2/3) & by the left ventricle(1/3)	the left ventricle (2/3) & partly by the right ventricle(1/3); it is related to the central tendon of the diaphragm	the left ventricle; it forms the cardiac impression of the left lung	formed mainly by the right atrium

border

Right border (slightly convex)	Inferior border (nearly horizontal)	Left border (oblique)	Superior border
the right atrium & extending between SVC & IVC	the right ventricle & only slightly by the left ventricle	the left ventricle & slightly by the left auricle	the right & left atria & auricles in an anterior view

