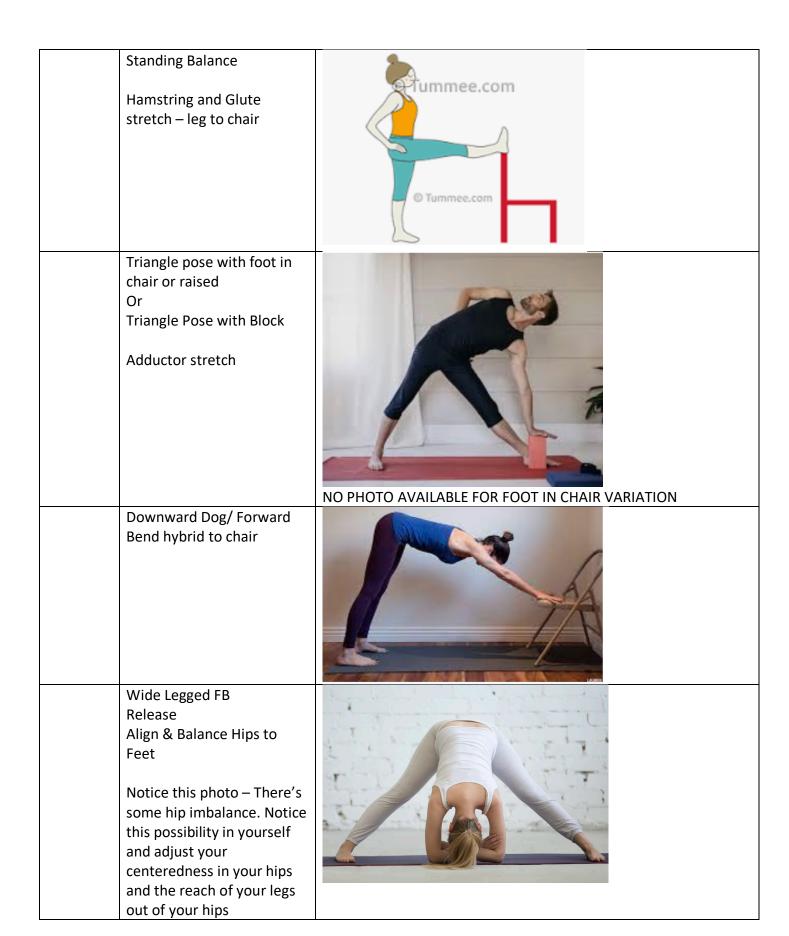
Let's Practice Hips and Legs from Every Angle

(see final pages for information on anatomy and physiology)

Phase	Instruction/Pose	Image
Standing	Tadasana Mountain Pose	Mountain Pose
	Shaking Qi Gong	
	Vinyasa	Standing FB, Side Stretching, Twisting, To Center & Chair Pose - Repeat
	Downward Dog/ Forward Bend hybrid to chair	



Wide Legged move side to side and then bending knee/lunge Move softly and slowly with hands on the floor for support	
Wide Legged FB	
From the Forward bend, shift your feet to one side and then bend your front knee and lower the back knee to the floor Hands can remain on the floor, on your thigh or arms raised overhead Quadricep/Thigh stretch	

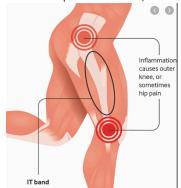
Side angle Lower hand to thigh or floor or onto a block	
Warrior 2 First dynamically in and out of the pose and then hold	
Tadasana Mountain Pose	Mountain Pose
Wide Legged FB Then switch sides for Low Lunge	

	High lunge with blocks and twist From side angle pose (above) pivot on feet to the side and align feet parallel and hips distance apart and then bend front knee and move into high lunge Optional: Twist in the direction of the bent front knee. "Hug" inner thigh to ribs in order to keep knee in alignment with ankle and hip joint	© Tumme com
Transition to the Floor	Downward Facing Dog	Downward Dog
Seated	Dandasana Stick Pose	
	Seated Twists IT Band stretch	

	Seated FB	
Reclining	Transition onto back	
	Hip Release	
	Sivasana Rest	

A LITTLE GOOGLED ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

<u>The iliotibial band (IT band)</u> is also known as the iliotibial tract or Maissiat's **band**. It's a long piece of connective tissue, or fascia, that runs along the outside of your leg from the hip to the knee and shinbone. The **IT band** helps to extend, abduct, and rotate your hip.



<u>The adductors</u> are a group of muscles, as the name suggests, that primarily function to adduct the femur at the hip joint. Although they are all located somewhere along the medial side of the thigh, they originate in different places at the front of the pelvis.

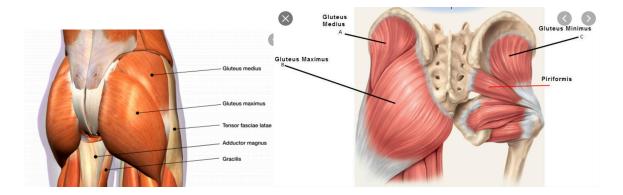


To Adduct - a transitive verb. : to draw (something, such as a limb) toward or past the median axis of the body also : to bring together (similar parts) **adduct** the fingers.

<u>The hamstrings</u> are a group of muscles that cross the hip and knee joints and are responsible for walking, running, jumping, and many other physical activities. The **hamstrings** flex the knee joint and extend the thigh backward to propel movement.



<u>The gluteal muscles</u>, commonly called **glutes** are a group of three muscles which make up the buttocks: the **gluteus** maximus, **gluteus** medius and **gluteus** minimus. The three muscles originate from the ilium and sacrum and insert on the femur. The **gluteus** maximus muscle exhibits four **actions** on the hip joint; extension, external rotation, abduction and adduction of the thigh. When its proximal attachment is fixed, **gluteus** maximus acts as the main extensor of the hip joint, pulling the shaft of the femur posteriorly.



<u>Thigh Muscles</u>: Quadriceps Femoris. The quadriceps femoris consists of four individual muscles; three vastus muscles and the rectus femoris. They form the main bulk of the thigh, and collectively are one of the most powerful muscles in the body. Actions: Extends the knee joint and stabilizes the patella. The iliopsoas is actually two muscles, the psoas major and the iliacus. They originate in different areas, but come together to form a tendon, hence why they are commonly referred to as one muscle. Actions: Flexes the thigh at the hip joint.

