Proximal Attachment

Latissimus dorsi arises deep to trapezius by tendinous fibers from the spinous processes and supraspinous ligaments of T7 to T12, the posterior layer of the thoracolumbar fascia (by which it is attached to the spines of all lumbar and sacral vertebrae), the posterior part of the iliac crest and by muscular fibers from the outer lip of the iliac crest lateral to erector spinae and the lower four ribs interdigitating with external oblique.

Distal Attachment

The fibers pass laterally converging to a narrow flat tendon; the upper fibers almost overlap the inferior angle of the scapula horizontally (where it may receive additional fibers), the middle fibers obliquely and the lower fibers almost vertically. The tendon passes anterior to that of teres major; the lower border of the tendon unites with the tendon of teres major for a short distance and a bursa lies between the two. The fascicles of the tendon rotate around each other, to attach to the floor of the intertubercular sulcus (groove) of the humerus. Due to the rotation of the fascicles, the lower fibers attach highest on the humerus and the upper fibers lowest.