

**Proximal Attachment**

The **fourth intercostal externus** muscle arises from the lower border of the fourth rib.

**Distal Attachment**

Posteriorly the fibers pass obliquely infero-laterally, while anteriorly they pass infero-medially to insert onto the superior border of the fifth rib. It extends from the tubercle, where it blends with the posterior fibers of the superior costotransverse ligament, to the costochondral junction, where it continues as the external intercostal membrane attaching to the sternum.

**Nerve Supply**

The fourth intercostal externus muscle is supplied by the fourth intercostal nerve.

**Action**

The fourth intercostal externus muscle is most active during inspiration, but its primary role is with the fourth intercostal internus to stiffen the chest wall during respiration.