



The lung tissue, like the heart, is enclosed by a capsule. (Top image) You can see the capsule is on the lateral surfaces and then continues to the main bronchi.

(Middle image) You can see that the pleural capsule, like the pericardial sac, has a fibrous and parietal surface. In the mediastinum, the fibrous capsules of the lungs and heart are adjacent with fascia between the two surfaces.

(Bottom image) The visceral and parietal surfaces for both lung and heart form as the organs are “pushed” into a sphere. The outer surface of the sphere will be the fibrous layer. As the heart is pushed into the sphere, the outer surface (fibrous) now is “next” to the heart but the inner surface of the sphere on the surface of the heart becomes the visceral pericardium. The inside of the sphere on the outer margins of the cavity becomes the parietal and on the surface of the heart (or lung tissue) becomes the visceral layer. These are serous membrane. Similar events explain pleural membranes.

