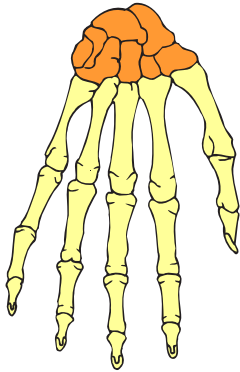


Skeletal System (Human): Key Words

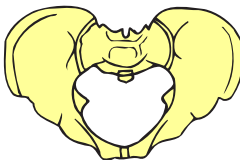
Carpus



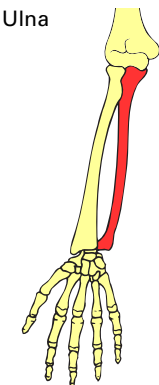
Occipital bone



Pelvis (male, inferior view)



Ulna



Acetabulum A socket in the hip bone to take the rounded head of the femur.

Backbone See **Vertebral column**.

Bone The hard, dense connective tissue that forms the skeleton's components.

Bone marrow Soft red and yellow substances that fill cavities in bone.

Breastbone See **Sternum**.

Calcaneus The tarsal bone that comprises the heel bone. See **Tarsus**.

Carpus The wrist's framework comprising eight small bones called carpal bones.

Cartilage Gristle: dense, white connective tissue cushioning bones.

Clavicle Either of the two collarbones, linking the scapulae to the sternum.

Coccyx Four fused vertebrae forming the "tail" of the backbone.

Cranium The part of the skull that contains the brain.

Diaphysis The shaft of a long bone.

Epiphyses The ends of a long bone.

Femur The thigh bone: the long bone between the hip and the knee.

Fibula The long, slim bone at the outer side of the lower leg.

Foramen A hole in a bone.

Frontal bone The forehead bone.

Haversian canals (or Osteonic canals) Tiny canals in bone, containing nerves and blood vessels.

Hip bones (or Innominate bones) Flared bones forming the pelvis. Each hip bone comprises three fused bones: the ilium, ischium, and pubis.

Humerus The upper arm bone.

Ilium The uppermost of the three fused bones that form the hip bone.

Innominate bones See **Hip bones**.

Intervertebral disk The fibrocartilaginous disk between two vertebrae.

Ischium The bone forming the lower, rear part of a hip bone.

Joint The junction between bones. Joints may be articulating (movable), slightly movable, or immovable.

Ligament Fibrous tissue that connects bones.

Mandible The lower jawbone.

Maxilla One of the two bones of the upper jaw (plural: maxillae).

Metacarpus The five metacarpal bones between the wrist and the fingers.

Metatarsus The five metatarsal bones located between the ankle and the toes.

Occipital bone A bone at the back of the skull with a hole in it for the spinal cord.

Ossicles Tiny bones, especially the auditory ossicles (malleus, incus, and stapes) in the middle ear.

Osteocytes Mature bone cells.

Osteonic canals See **Haversian canals**.

Parietal bones Two fused bones forming the top of the skull.

Patella The kneecap.

Pelvic girdle See **Pelvis**.

Pelvis A bony basin formed by the two hip bones, the sacrum, and the coccyx.

Phalanges The finger and toe bones.

Pubis Part of a hip bone: one of a pair that meet at the front of the pelvis.

Radius The outer and shorter of the two long bones of the forearm.

Ribs Twelve pairs of curved bones that protect the chest cavity.

Sacrum Five fused vertebrae joined to the two hip bones.

Scapula Either of the two shoulder blades (plural: scapulae).

Shoulder blades See **Scapula**.

Skeleton The bony framework that protects and supports the body's soft tissues.

Skull Frame of the head, comprised of 22 bones.

Spine See **Vertebral column**.

Sternum The breastbone.

Suture An immovable fibrous joint between the skull bones.

Symphysis A cartilaginous joint.

Synovial joint A freely movable joint with a cavity lined by synovial membrane and lubricated by synovial fluid.

Talus An ankle bone: part of the tarsus.

Tarsus The seven small tarsal bones which help to form and support the ankle, heel, and instep.

Teeth Up to 32 bonelike structures in the jaws. Different types (incisors, canines, premolars, molars) are specialized to pierce, tear, crush, and/or grind food.

Temporal bone One of a pair of bones forming the skull's lower side walls.

Tendons Bands of fibrous connective tissue joining muscles to bones.

Thigh bone See **Femur**.

Tibia The shinbone: the inner and larger long bone of the lower leg.

Ulna The inner and longer of the two bones of the forearm.

Vertebra A bone of the vertebral column (plural: vertebrae).

Vertebral column (or Backbone or Spine) The column of vertebrae between the skull and the hip bones, supporting the body and shielding the spinal cord. It has five sections: cervical, thoracic, lumbar, sacral, and coccygeal.

Zygomatic bone The cheekbone.