

**frontal**

Muscle that creases the skin of the forehead, raises the eyebrows and pulls the scalp forward.

**masseter**

Masticator muscle enabling the lower jaw to move.

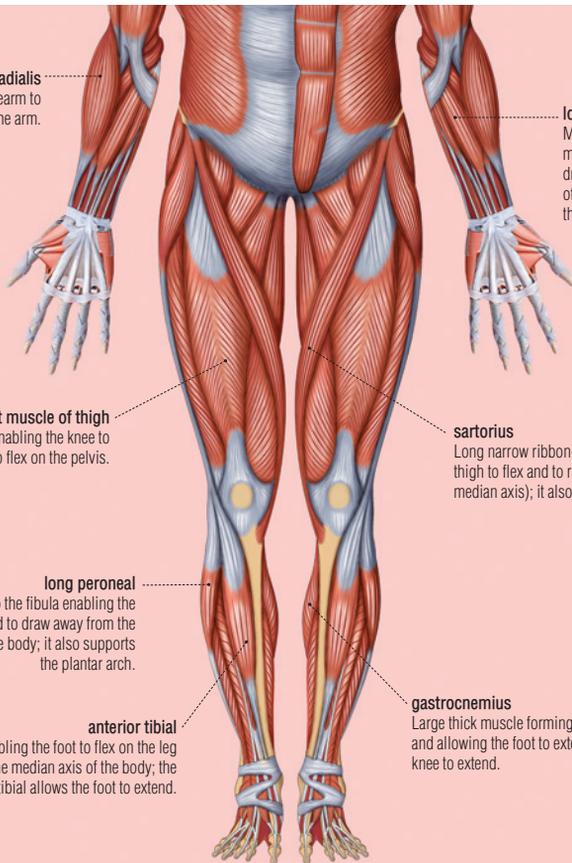
**deltoid**

Thick triangular muscle drawing the arm away from the median axis of the body and directing it toward the front and back until it is horizontal.

**trapezius**

Large flat triangular muscle enabling many shoulder movements; it also helps to extend the head.

# THE HUMAN BEING



**brachioradialis**

Muscle mainly enabling the forearm to flex on the arm.

**long palmar**

Muscle enabling various hand movements, including flexing it and drawing it away from the median axis of the body; it also helps to stabilize the wrist.

**straight muscle of thigh**

Powerful muscle enabling the knee to extend and the thigh to flex on the pelvis.

**sartorius**

Long narrow ribbon-shaped muscle enabling the thigh to flex and to rotate outwardly (outside the median axis); it also allows the leg to flex.

**long peroneal**

Muscle attached to the fibula enabling the foot to extend and to draw away from the median axis of the body; it also supports the plantar arch.

**gastrocnemius**

Large thick muscle forming the curve of the calf and allowing the foot to extend; it also helps the knee to extend.

**anterior tibial**

Thick muscle enabling the foot to flex on the leg and to draw near the median axis of the body; the posterior tibial allows the foot to extend.

# THE HUMAN BEING

Jean-Claude **Corbeil**

Ariane **Archambault**

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# INTRODUCTION

## EDITORIAL POLICY

*The Visual Dictionary* takes an inventory of the physical environment of a person who is part of today's technological age and who knows and uses a large number of specialized terms in a wide variety of fields.

Designed for the general public, it responds to the needs of anyone seeking the precise, correct terms for a wide range of personal or professional reasons: finding an unknown term, checking the meaning of a word, translation, advertising, teaching material, etc.

The target user has guided the choice of contents for *The Visual Dictionary*, which aims to bring together in 12 thematic books the technical terms required to express the contemporary world, in the specialized fields that shape our daily experience.

## STRUCTURE

Each tome has three sections: the preliminary pages, including the table of contents; the body of the text (i.e. the detailed treatment of the theme); the index.

Information is presented moving from the most abstract to the most concrete: sub-theme, title, subtitle, illustration, terminology.

## TERMINOLOGY

Each word in *The Visual Dictionary* has been carefully selected following examination of high-quality documentation, at the required level of specialization.

There may be cases where different terms are used to name the same item. In such instances, the word most frequently used by the most highly regarded authors has been chosen.

Words are usually referred to in the singular, even if the illustration shows a number of individual examples. The word designates the concept, not the actual illustration.

## DEFINITIONS

Within the hierarchical format of *The Visual Dictionary's* presentation, the definitions fit together like a Russian doll. For example, the information within the definition for the term *insect* at the top of the page does not have to be repeated for each of the insects illustrated. Instead, the text concentrates on defining the distinguishing characteristics of each insect (the *louse* is a parasite, the female *yellow jacket* stings, and so forth).

Since the definition leaves out what is obvious from the illustration, the illustrations and definitions complement one another.

The vast majority of the terms in the *Visual Dictionary* are defined. Terms are not defined when the illustration makes the meaning absolutely clear, or when the illustration suggests the usual meaning of the word (for example, the numerous *handles*).

## METHODS OF CONSULTATION

Users may gain access to the contents of *The Visual Dictionary* in a variety of ways:

- From the TABLE OF CONTENTS at the end of the preliminary pages, the user can locate by title the section that is of interest.
- With the INDEX, the user can consult *The Visual Dictionary* from a word, so as to see what it corresponds to, or to verify accuracy by examining the illustration that depicts it.
- The most original aspect of *The Visual Dictionary* is the fact that the illustrations enable the user to find a word even if he or she only has a vague idea of what it is. The dictionary is unique in this feature, as consultation of any other dictionary requires the user first to know the word.

## TITLE

Its definition is found below. If the title refers to information that continues over several pages, after the first page it is shown in a shaded tone with no definition.

## TERM

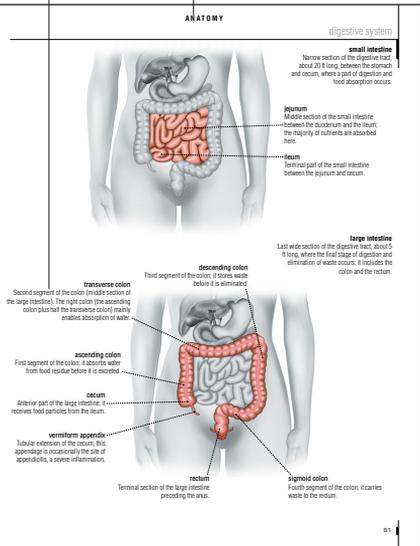
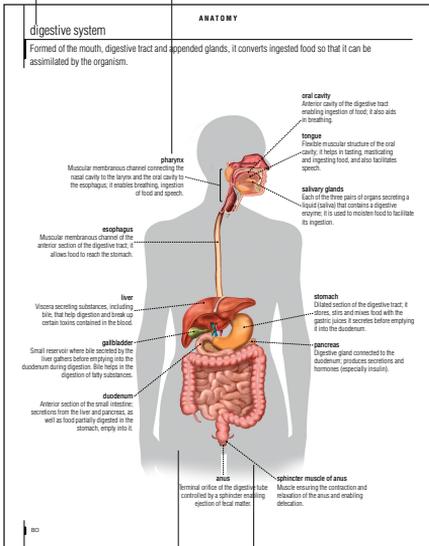
Each term appears in the index with a reference to the pages on which it appears.

## DEFINITION

It explains the inherent qualities, function, or characteristics of the element depicted in the illustration.

## SUB-THEME

These are shown at the end of the preliminary pages along with their definitions. They are then repeated on each page of a section, but without the definition.



## ILLUSTRATION

It is an integral part of the visual definition for each of the terms that refer to it.

## NARROW LINES

These link the word to the item indicated. Where too many lines would make reading difficult, they have been replaced by color codes with captions or, in rare cases, by numbers.

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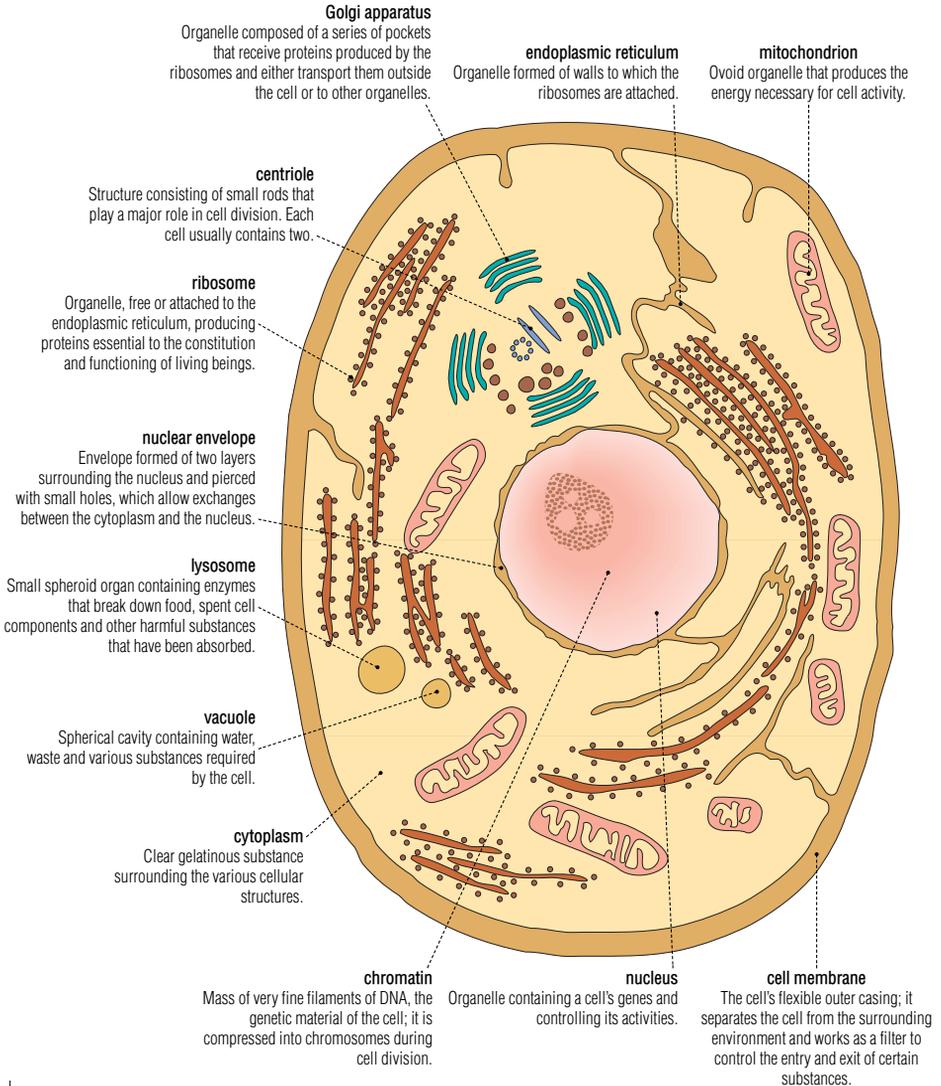
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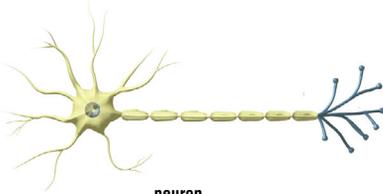
# human cell

Smallest living structure and constituent unit of human beings; the sizes and shapes of cells vary according to their function.



**examples of cells**

The human body contains some 200 types of cells. All cells have the same general structure but are adapted according to their function in the body.



**neuron**

Cell that receives, carries, and transmits messages in the form of nerve impulses.



**photoreceptor**

Nerve cell in the retina that converts light into nerve impulses; these are transmitted to the cerebrum, which decodes them and forms an image.



**spermatozoon**

Mature and mobile reproductive male cell produced by the testicle; the main constituent of the sperm used to fertilize an egg.



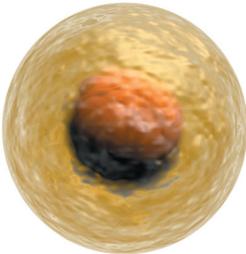
**osteocyte**

Irregularly shaped cell making up bony tissue.



**red blood cell**

Blood cell that transports oxygen and contains a pigment (hemoglobin); red blood cells are the most numerous.



**egg**

Mature female reproductive cell produced by the ovary, which, after fertilization by a spermatozoon, enables the embryo to develop.



**neutrophil**

Blood cell that plays an essential role the body's defense, characterized by a nucleus with several lobes and a granular cytoplasm.

**muscle fiber**

Component tissue of the muscle; it includes several nuclei and numerous parallel filaments that can contract themselves.

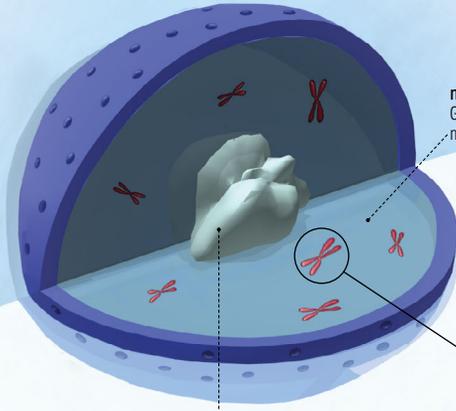


# DNA

Complex molecule containing genes, contained in cell nuclei and formed of strands of nucleotides arranged in a double helix.

**nucleus**

Organelle containing a cell's genes and controlling its activities.



**nucleoplasm**

Gelatinous substance in which the nucleolus and chromatin float.

**nucleolus**

Small spherical body located inside the nucleus, within which the ribosomes, or protein-synthesizing structures, are produced.

**chromosome**

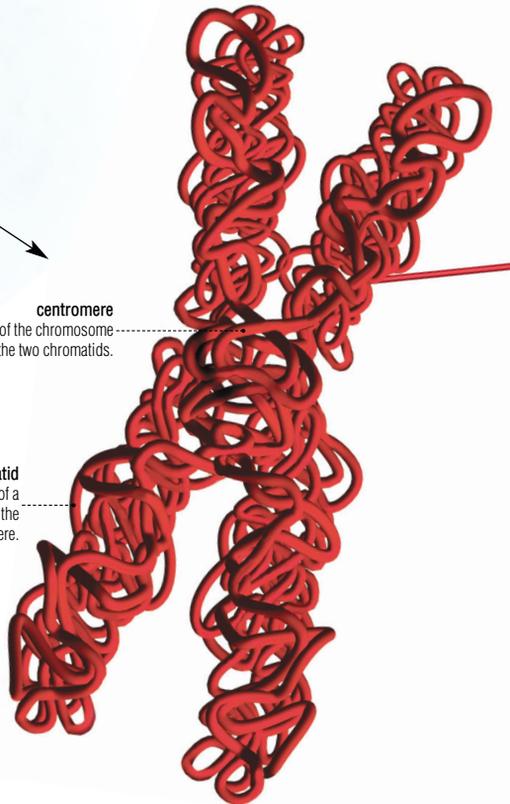
Element, composed of DNA and proteins, that carries genetic information. Human cells have 46, which can be observed only during cell division.

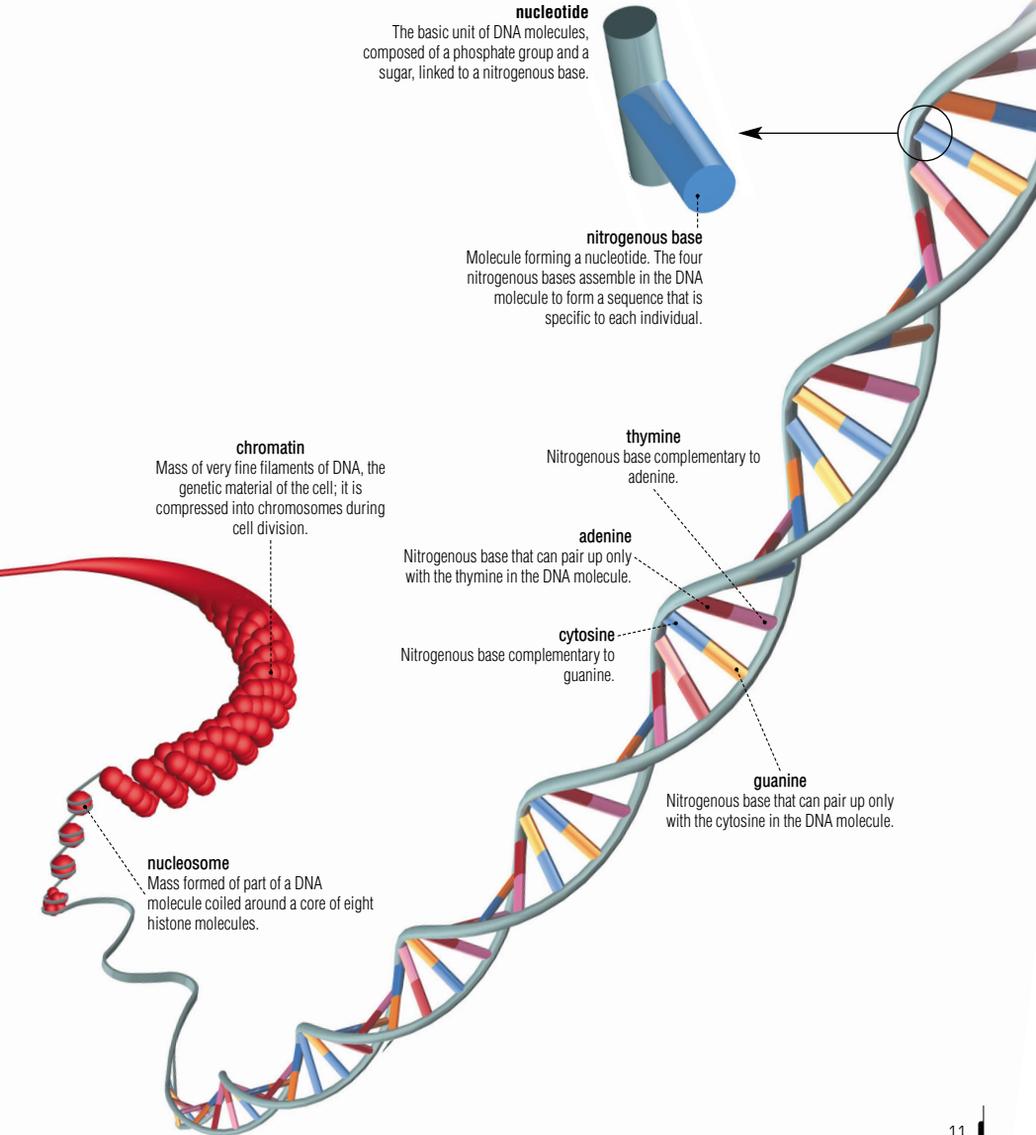
**centromere**

Short section of the chromosome joining the two chromatids.

**chromatid**

Each of the two strands of a chromosome. During cell division, the two strands separate at the centromere.





**nucleotide**

The basic unit of DNA molecules, composed of a phosphate group and a sugar, linked to a nitrogenous base.

**nitrogenous base**

Molecule forming a nucleotide. The four nitrogenous bases assemble in the DNA molecule to form a sequence that is specific to each individual.

**chromatin**

Mass of very fine filaments of DNA, the genetic material of the cell; it is compressed into chromosomes during cell division.

**thymine**

Nitrogenous base complementary to adenine.

**adenine**

Nitrogenous base that can pair up only with the thymine in the DNA molecule.

**cytosine**

Nitrogenous base complementary to guanine.

**guanine**

Nitrogenous base that can pair up only with the cytosine in the DNA molecule.

**nucleosome**

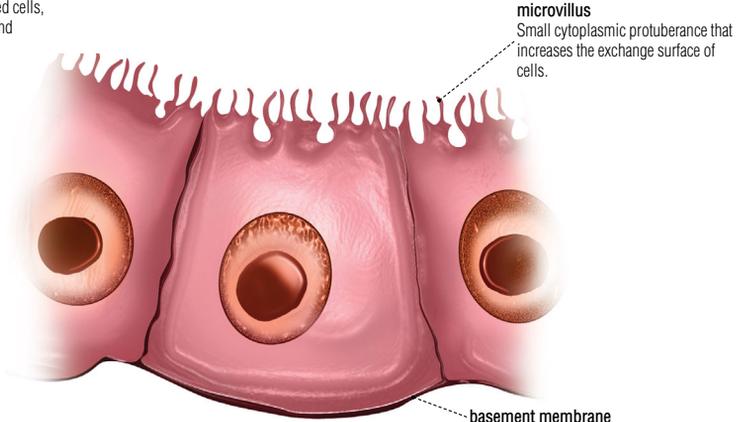
Mass formed of part of a DNA molecule coiled around a core of eight histone molecules.

# tissues

Combinations of cells and molecules making up the organs of the human body.

## epithelial tissue

Tissue, formed of closely packed cells, that lines most of the internal and external surfaces of the body.

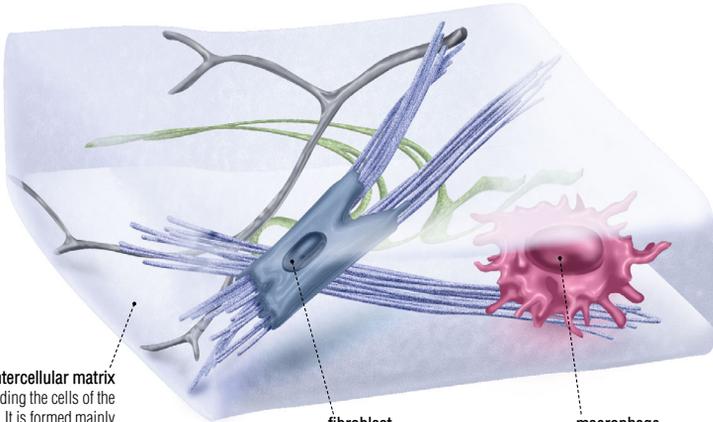


**microvillus**  
Small cytoplasmic protuberance that increases the exchange surface of cells.

**basement membrane**  
Membrane on which epithelial cells sit and that connects them with the underlying vascular tissues.

## connective tissue

Tissue formed of cells floating in an abundant matrix. Cartilage, bone tissue, and most of the tissues that make up the organs are connective tissues.



**intercellular matrix**  
Substance surrounding the cells of the connective tissue. It is formed mainly of liquid and fibers.

**fibroblast**  
Cell that manufactures the fibers in connective tissue.

**macrophage**  
Cell whose main function is to destroy undesirable elements (foreign bodies, debris, dead cells).

**muscle tissue**

Tissue forming muscles, which contracts in response to a nerve impulse sent by the central nervous system.

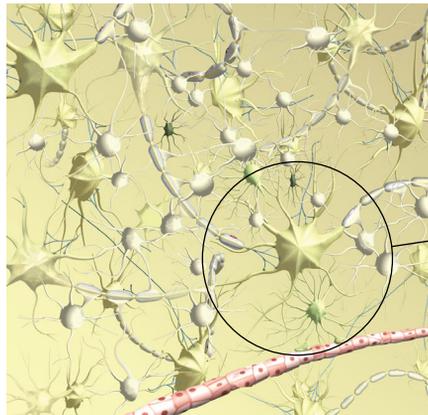


**muscle fiber**

Component tissue of the muscle.

**nerve tissue**

Tissue specializing in transmission of nerve impulses. It is composed of neurons and glial cells, which protect and nourish the neurons.

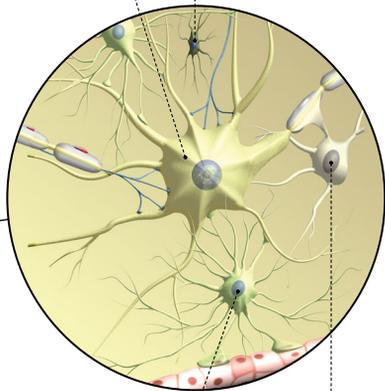


**neuron**

Nerve cell that receives, carries, and transmits messages in the form of nerve impulses.

**microglia**

Very small glial cell that rids the nerve tissue of foreign bodies and dead cells.



**astrocyte**

Glial cell whose numerous extensions terminate in feet that form barriers between neurons and blood capillaries.

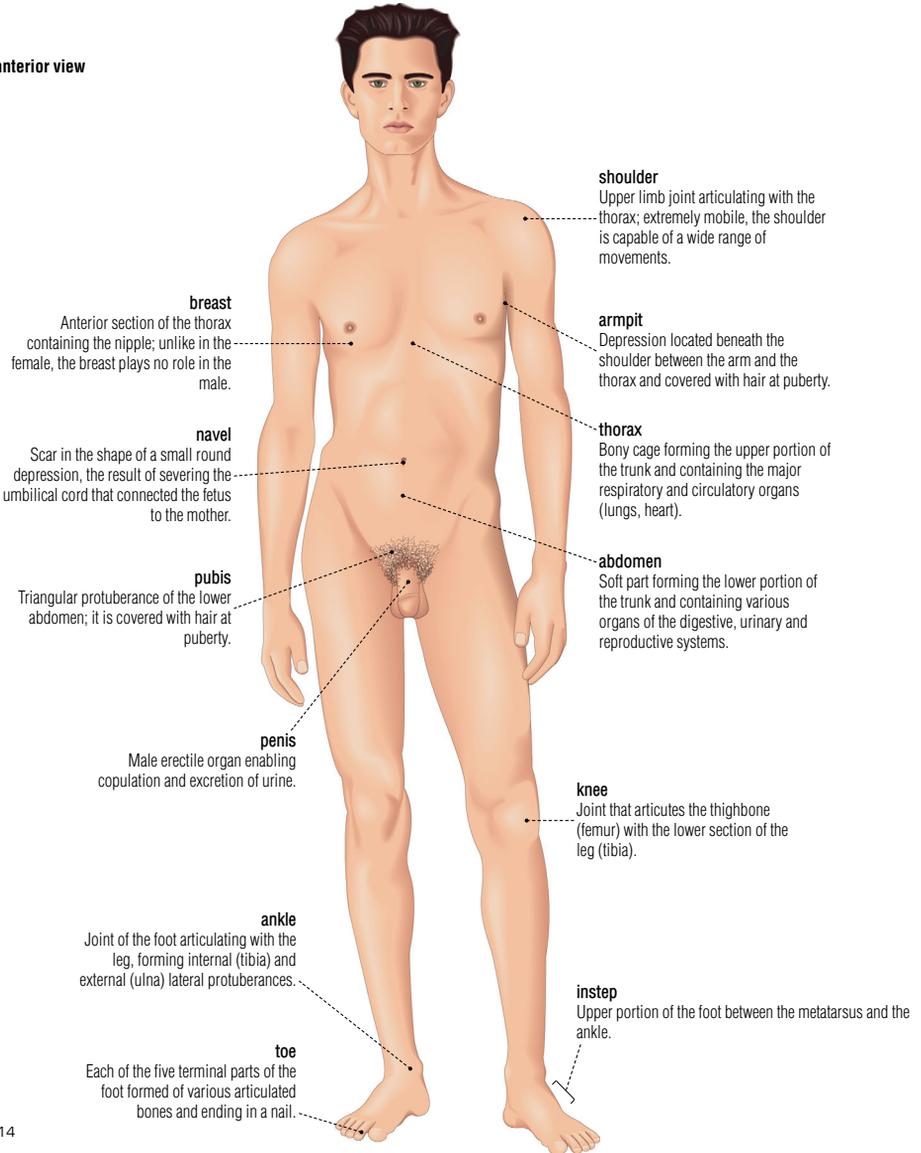
**oligodendrocyte**

Glial cell that plays a role in formation of the myelin sheath of the neurons in the central nervous system.

man

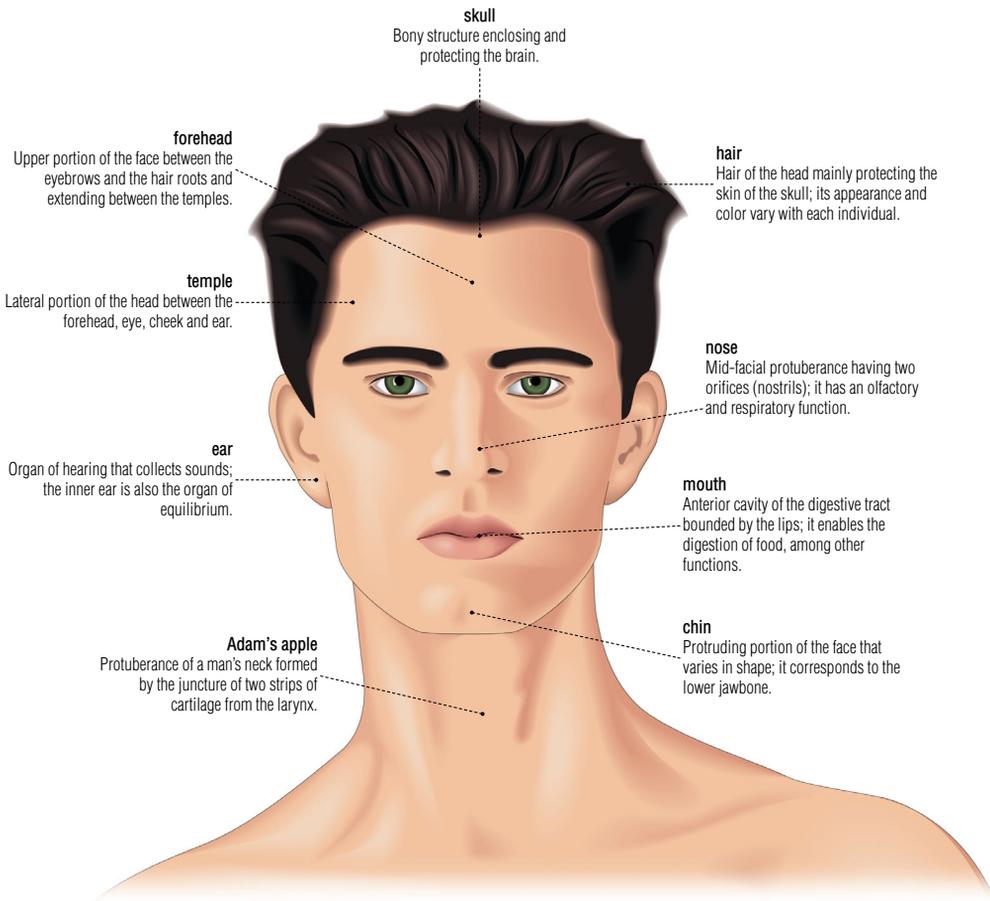
Male human being producing cells able to fertilize the ovum (egg); the male's skeleton is generally larger and heavier than that of the female.

anterior view

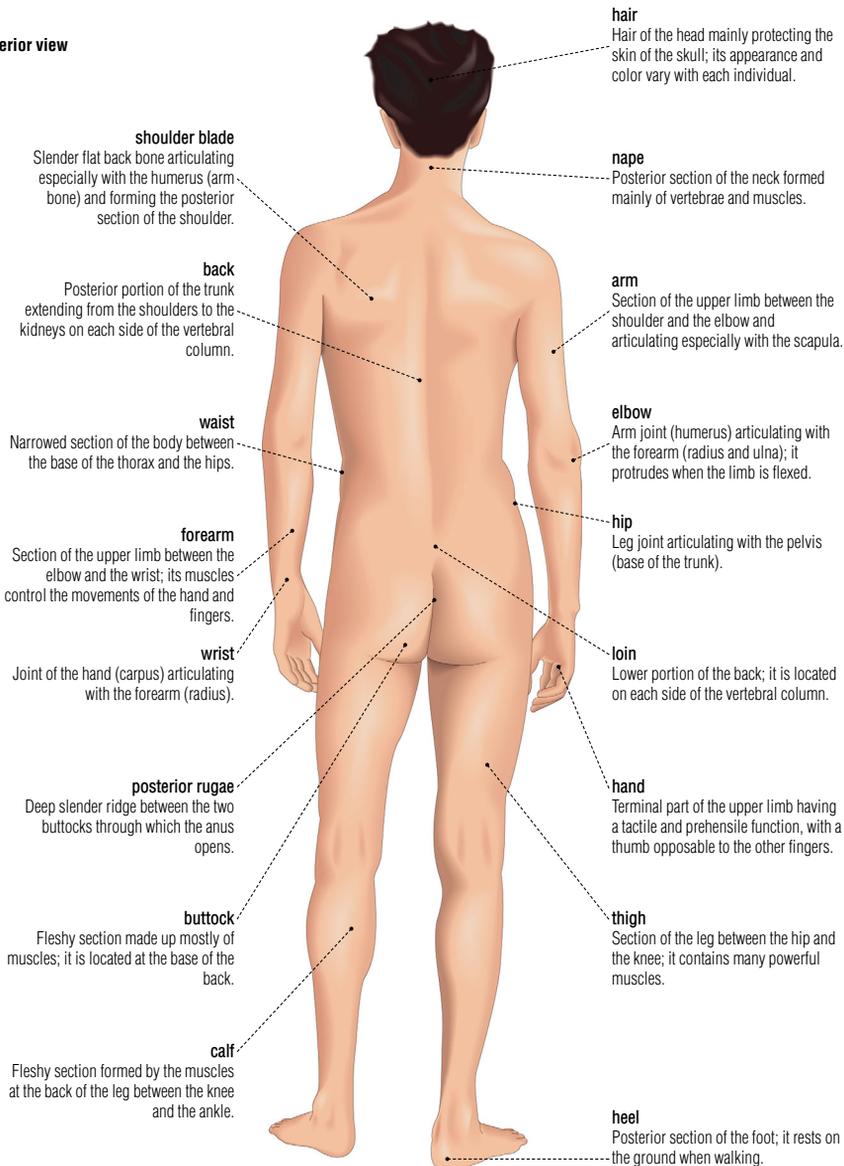


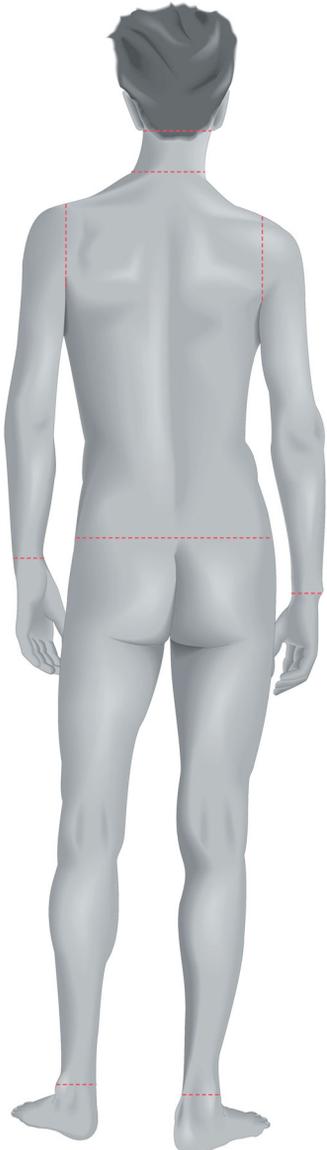
**face**

Front portion of the head bounded by the hair, ears and chin.



posterior view



**head**

Upper portion of the body supported by the neck and made up essentially of the main sensory organs and the brain.

**neck**

Portion of the body connecting the head to the trunk; the respiratory tract, nerve centers and blood vessels, in particular, pass through it.

**trunk**

Portion of the body to which the head and limbs are attached; it is made up of the thorax, abdomen and pelvis.

**leg**

Lower limb attached to the trunk; it supports the body in an upright position and during locomotion.

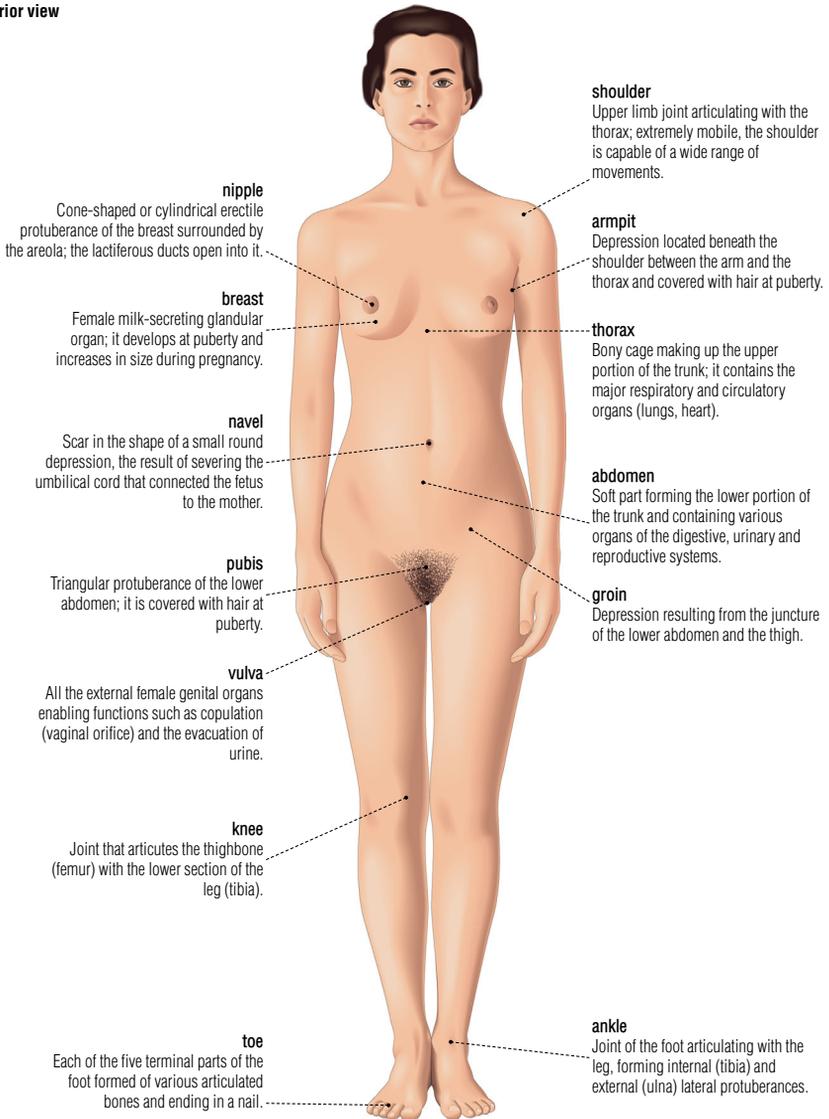
**foot**

Terminal part of the lower limb enabling upright stance and walking.

woman

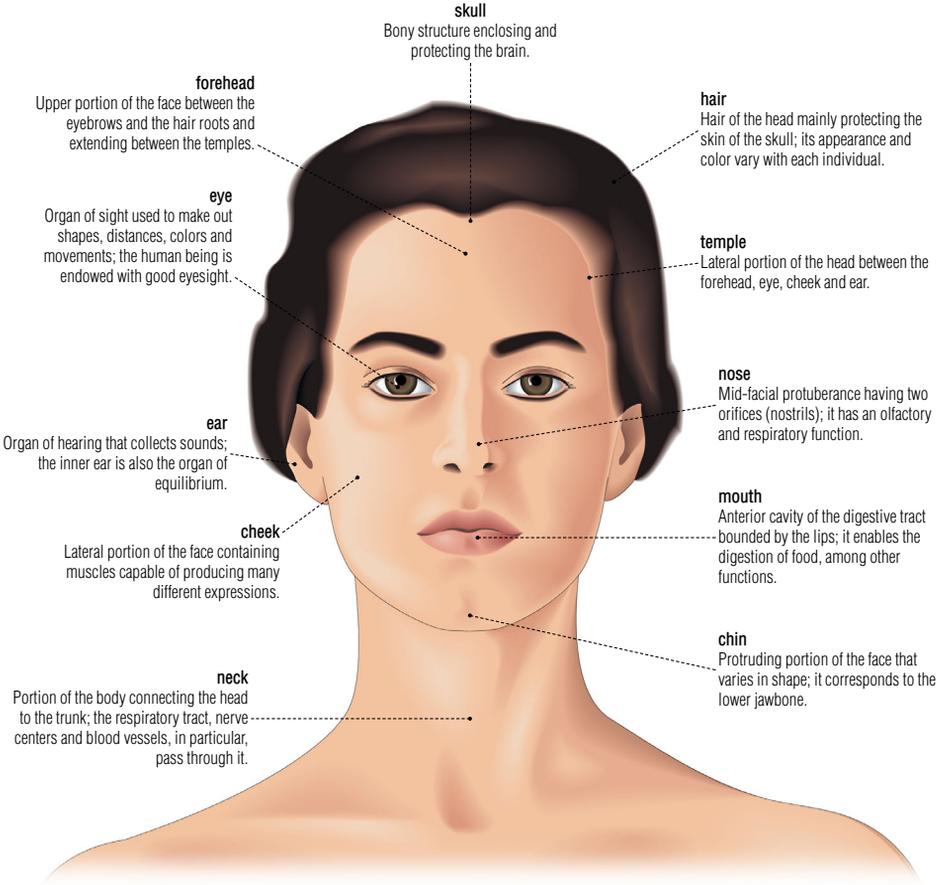
Human being of the female sex capable of conceiving children from an ovum (egg) fertilized by a spermatozoon (sperm, the reproductive male cell).

anterior view

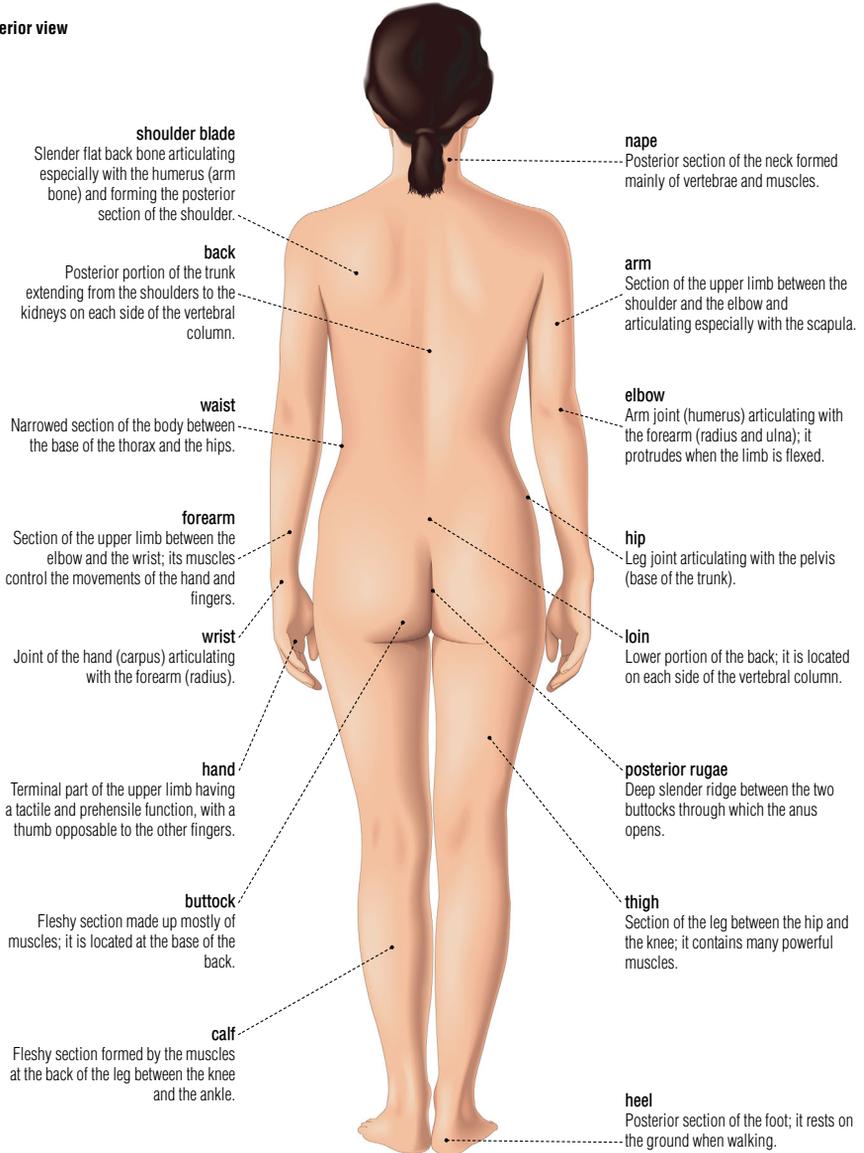


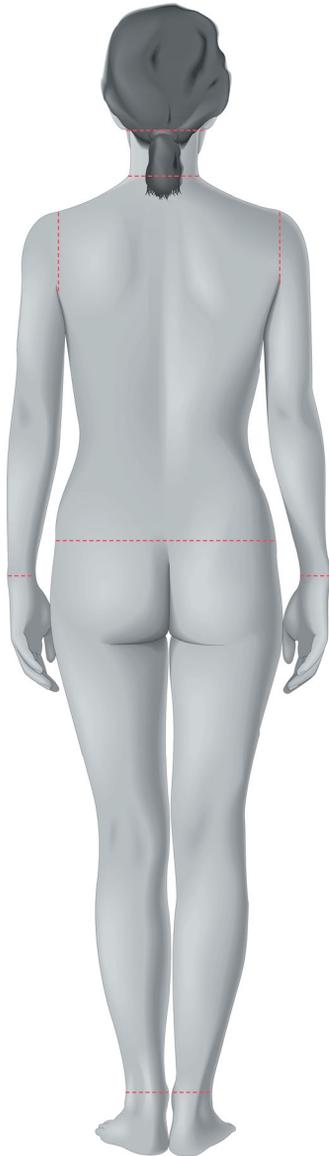
**face**

Front portion of the head bounded by the hair, ears and chin.



## posterior view



**head**

Upper portion of the body supported by the neck and made up essentially of the main sensory organs and the brain.

**neck**

Portion of the body connecting the head to the trunk; the respiratory tract, nerve centers and blood vessels, in particular, pass through it.

**trunk**

Portion of the body to which the head and limbs are attached; it is made up of the thorax, abdomen and pelvis.

**leg**

Lower limb attached to the trunk; it supports the body in an upright position and during locomotion.

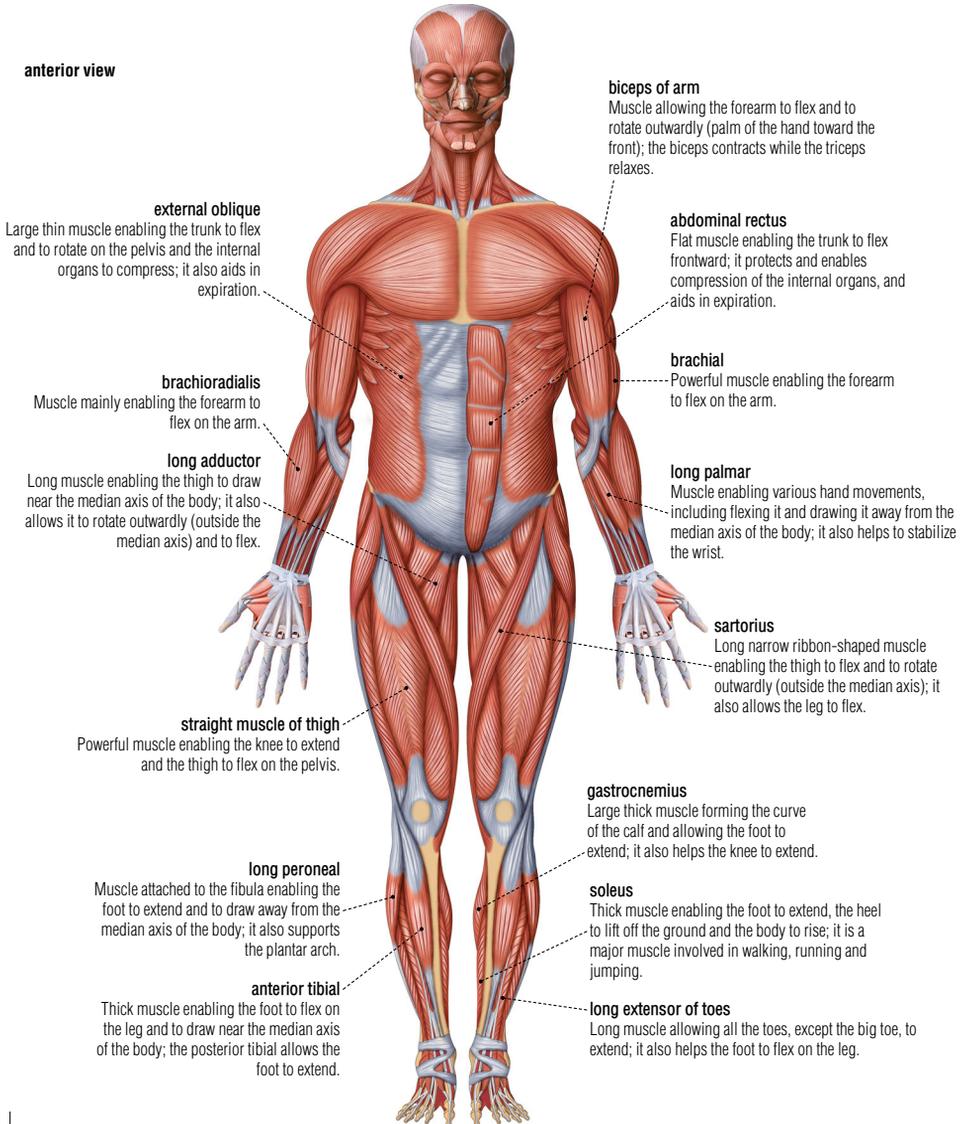
**foot**

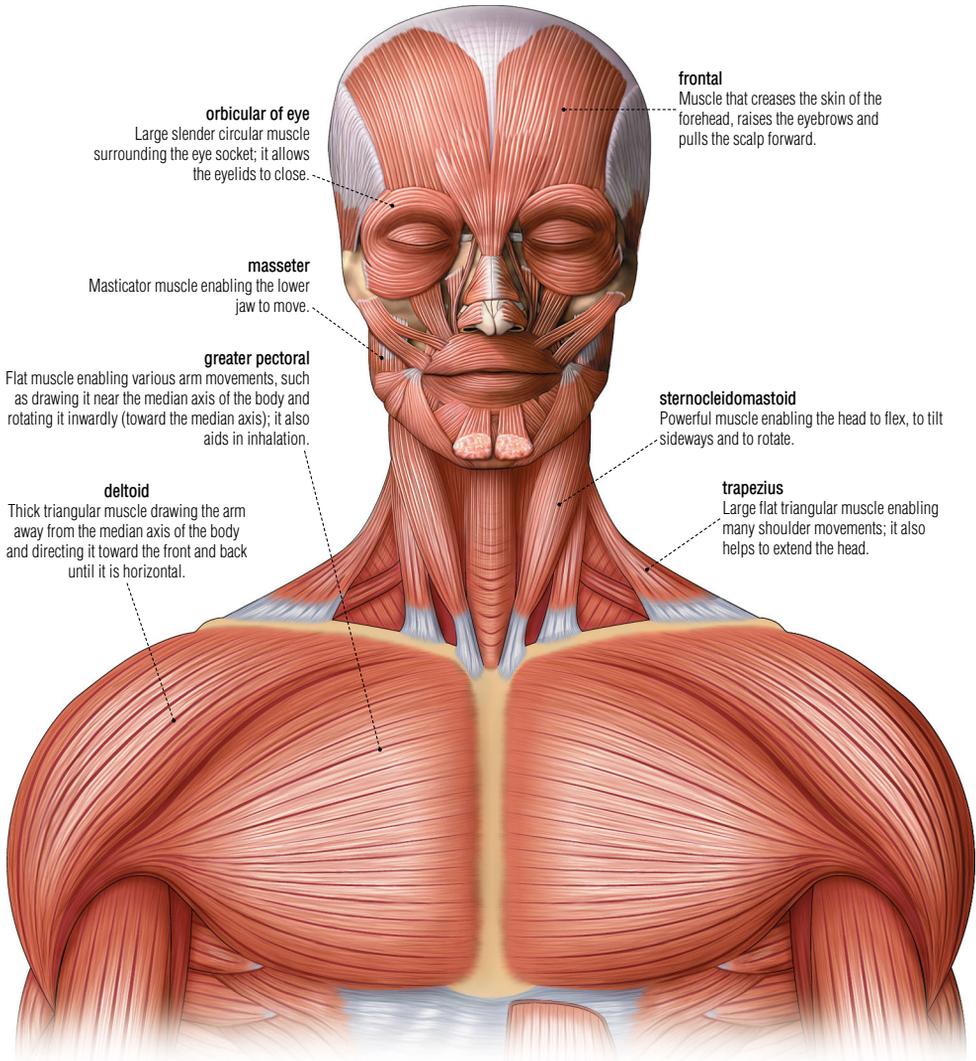
Terminal part of the lower limb enabling upright stance and walking.

# muscles

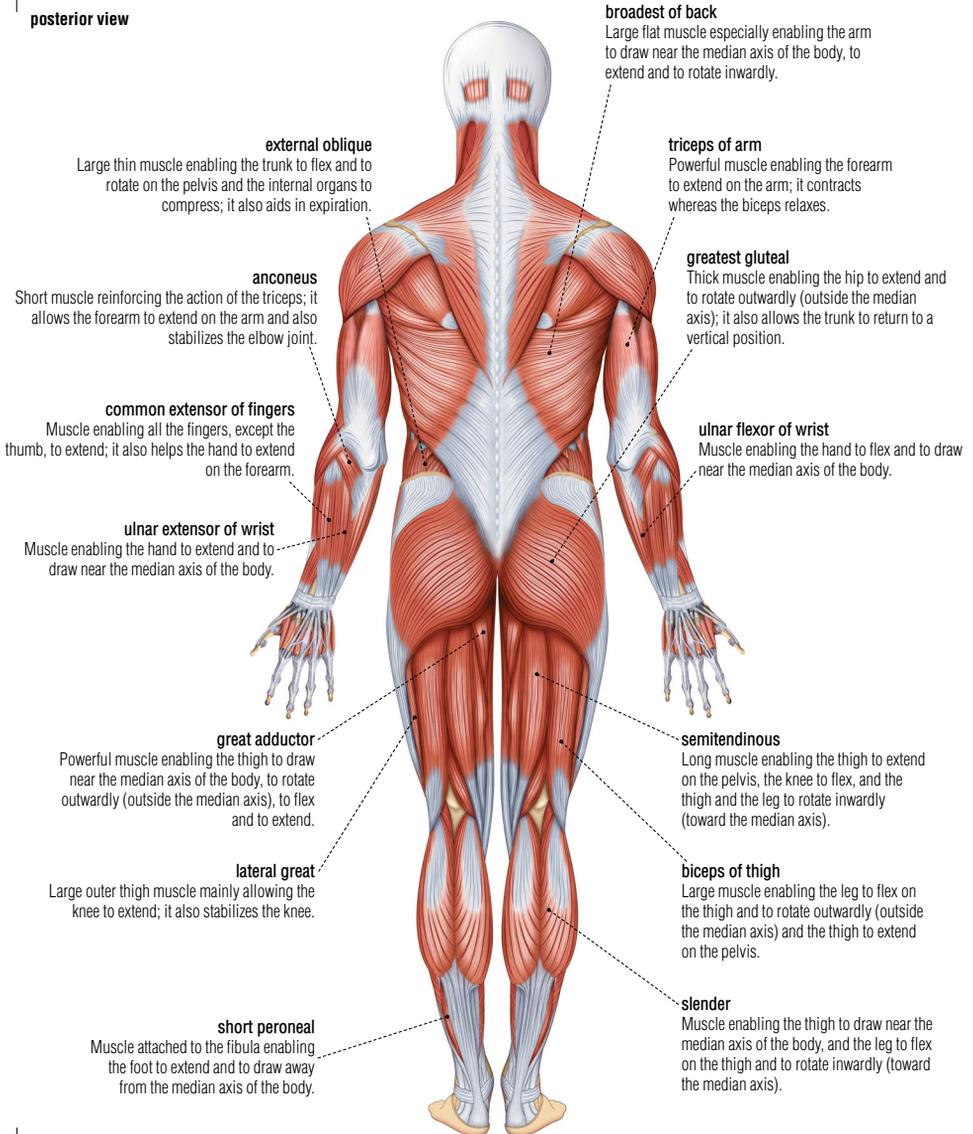
Contractile organs made of fibers allowing the body to move and maintain its posture; the human body has over 600 muscles.

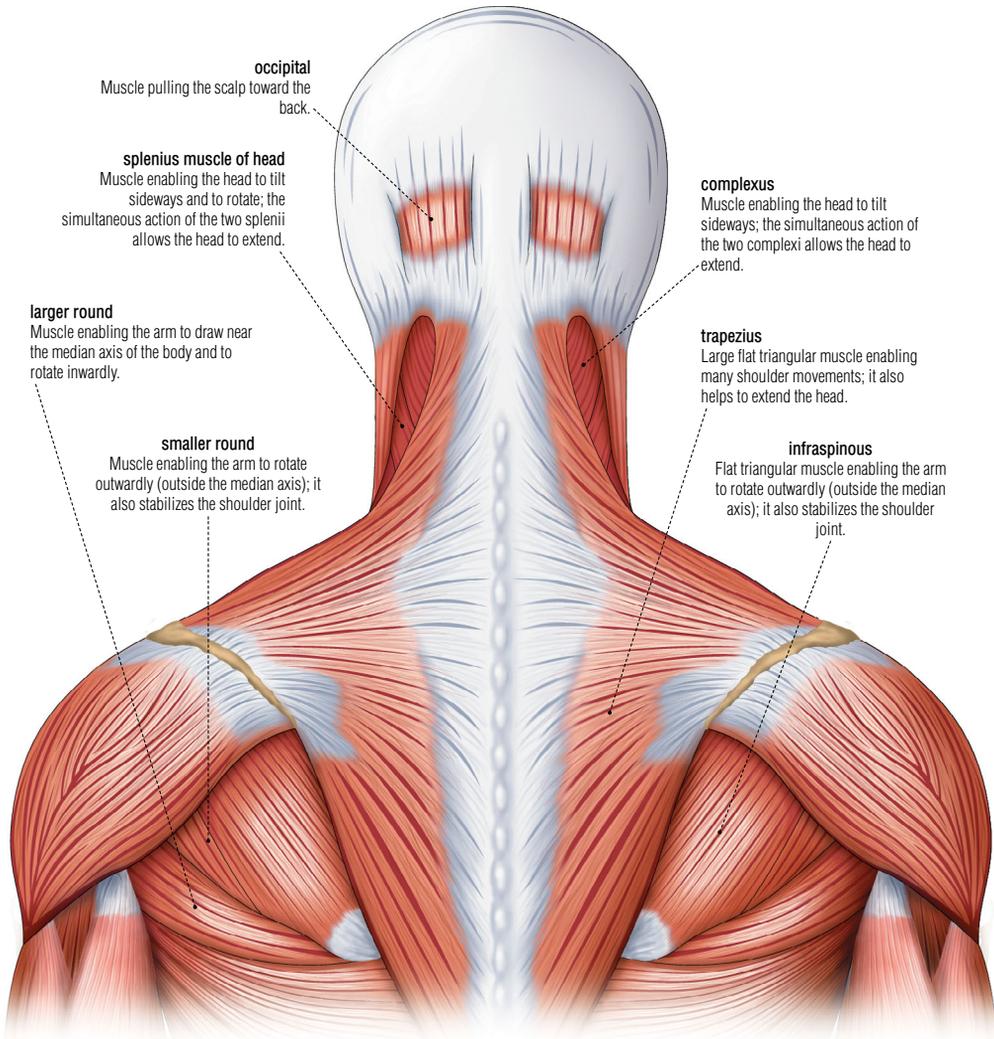
## anterior view



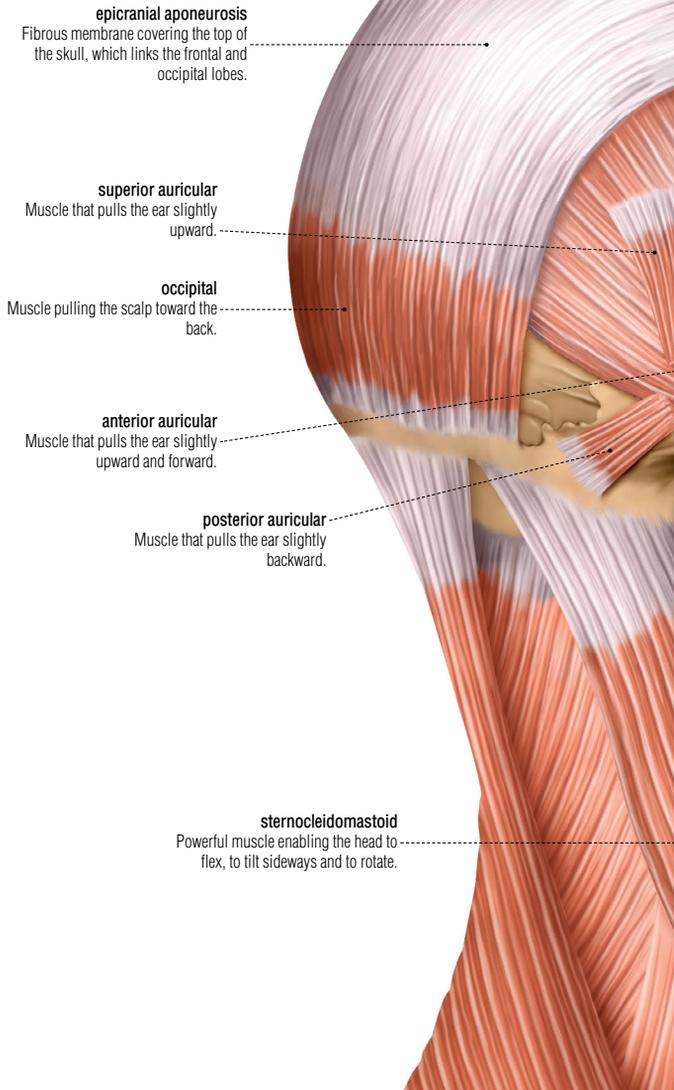


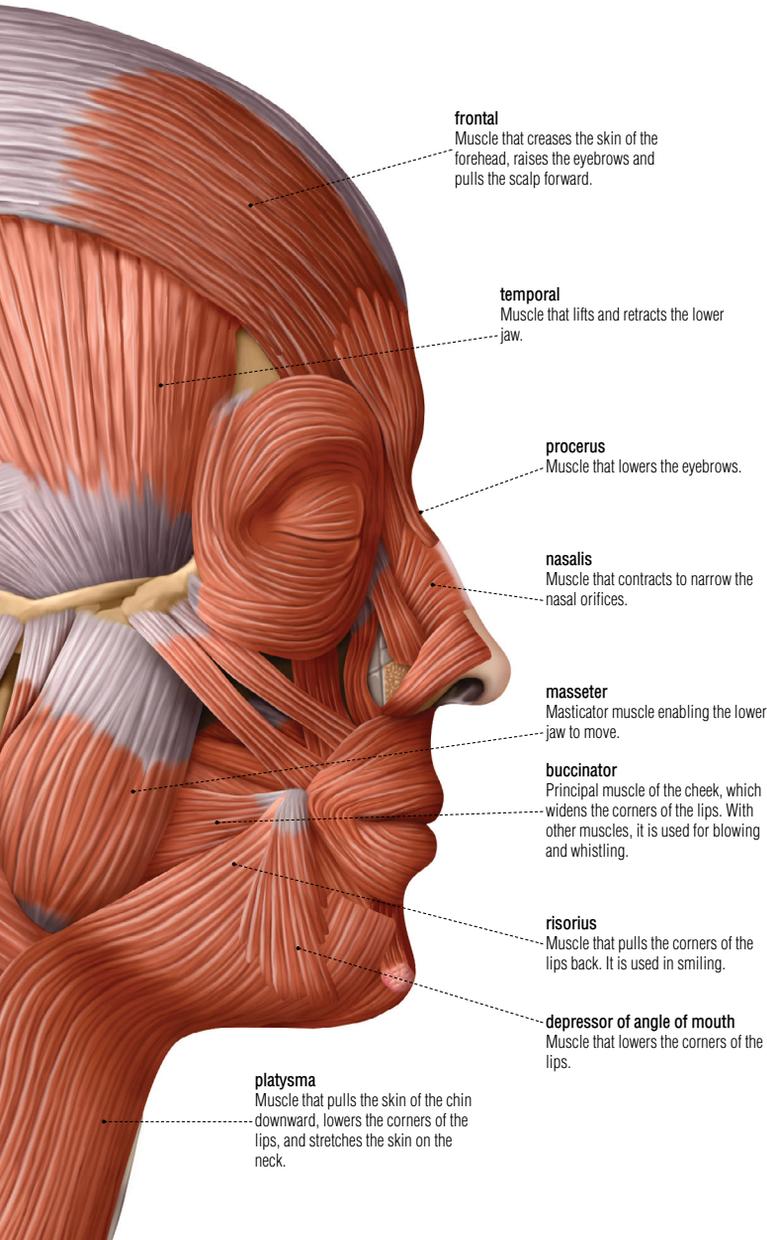
## posterior view



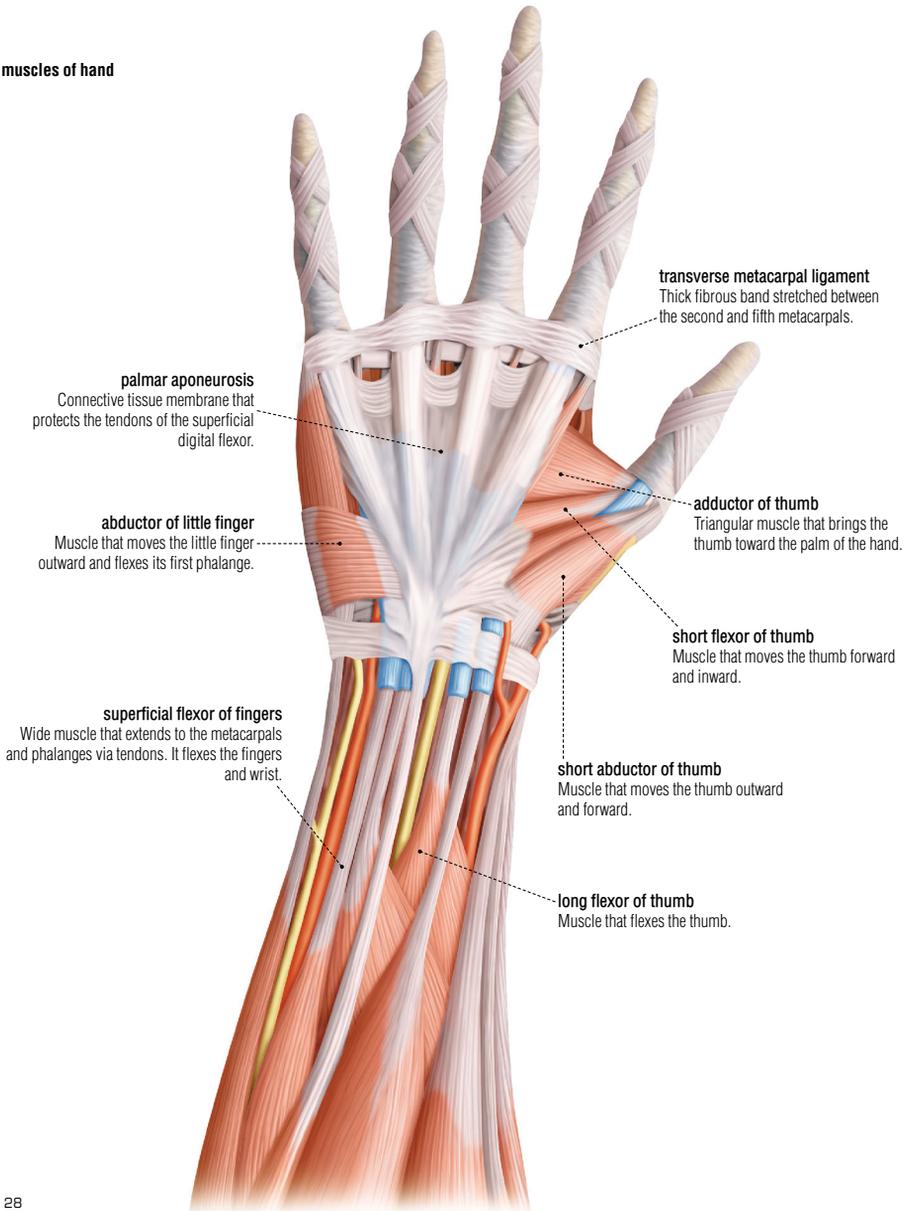


## muscles of head: lateral view





## muscles of hand



## parts of a striated muscle

**origin**

Point where a striated muscle is attached to a bone that is not set in motion by muscle contraction.

**belly**

Central part of the muscle between the origin and the insertion. A muscle may have one or several bellies.

**tendon**

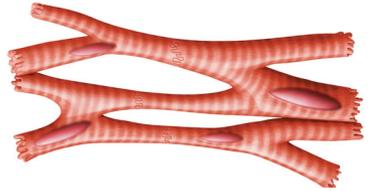
Fibrous tissue connecting the muscle to the bone.

**insertion**

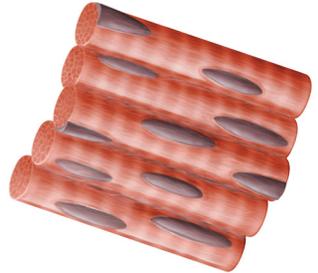
Point where a striated muscle is attached to a bone that is set in motion by muscle contraction.

**types of muscles**

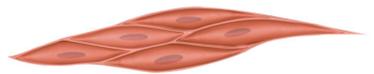
There are three main types of muscles, each with specific anatomical and functional characteristics.

**cardiac muscle**

Muscle formed of branching strands of muscle fibers with one or two nuclei. Cardiac muscles control the heartbeat.

**striated muscle**

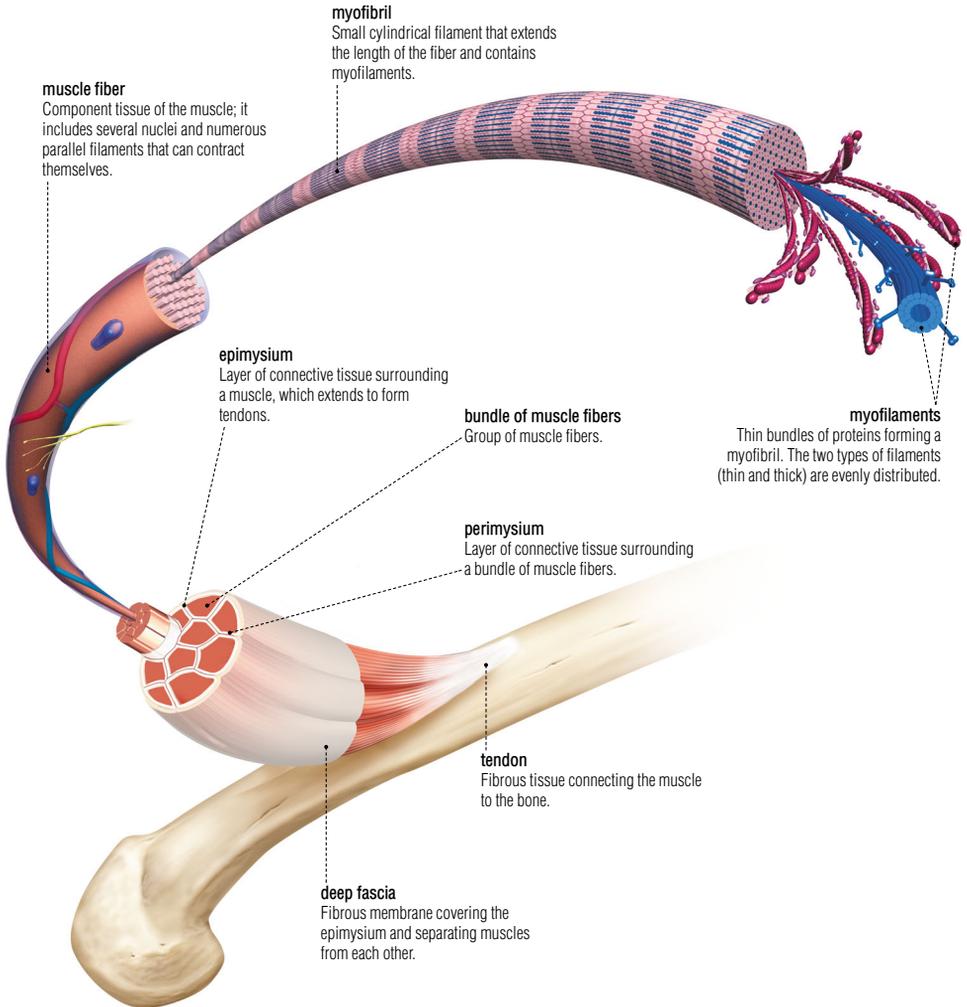
Muscle composed of muscle fibers with multiple nuclei grouped in dense bundles. Striated muscles control the skeleton's voluntary movements.

**smooth muscle**

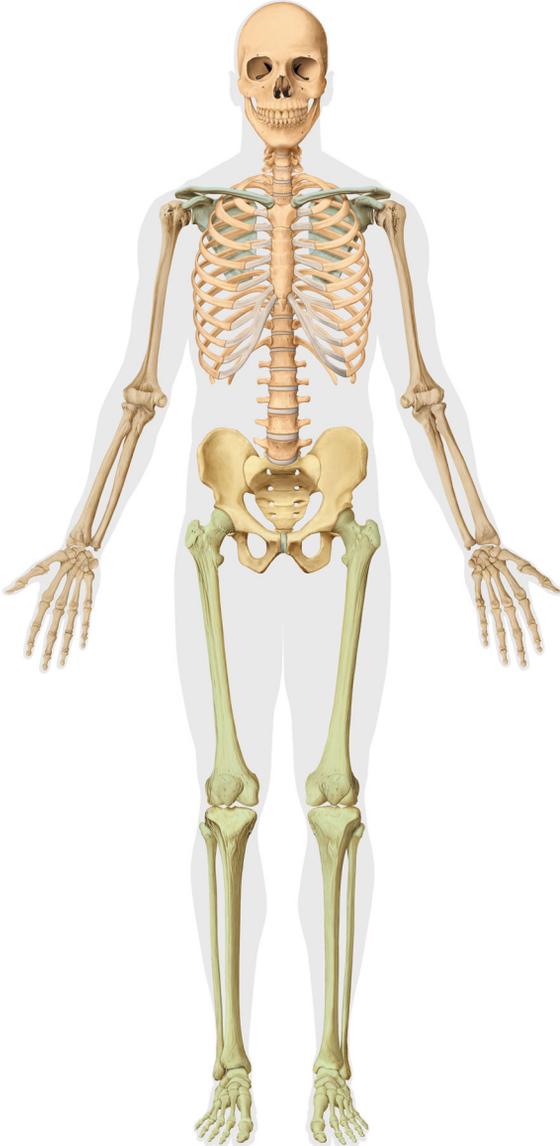
Muscle composed of small muscle fibers with a single nucleus. Smooth muscles control the involuntary movements of internal organs.

## muscles

## structure of a striated muscle



All the articulated bones (about 200), of varying sizes and shapes, forming the frame of the body, supporting the muscles and protecting the vital organs.

**axial skeleton**

The group of bones that support the body and protect the vital organs.

**upper limbs**

The group of bones forming the shoulders, upper arms, forearms, and hands, and which are involved, among other things, in prehension.

**shoulder girdle**

Group of bones linking the upper limbs to the axial skeleton.

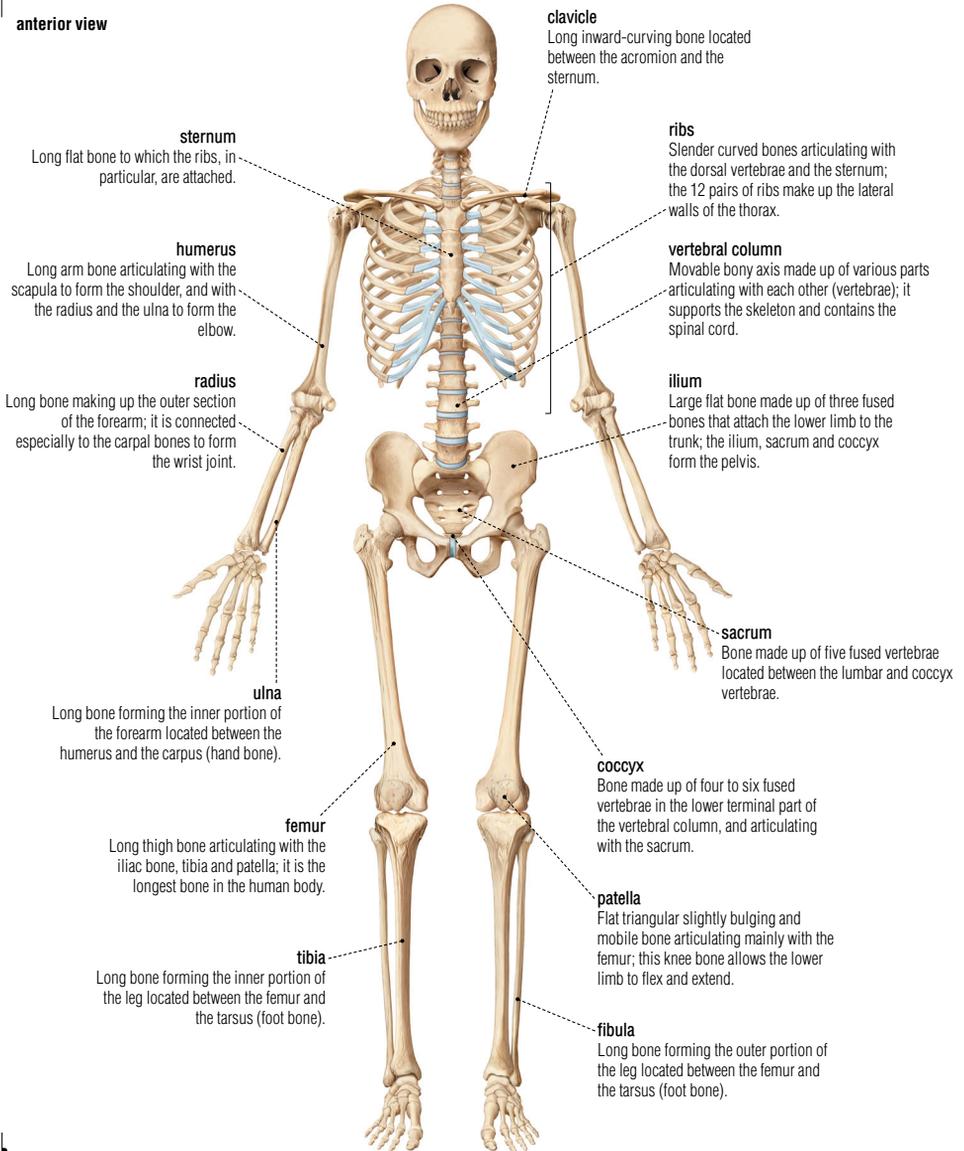
**pelvis**

Group of bones linking the lower limbs to the axial skeleton.

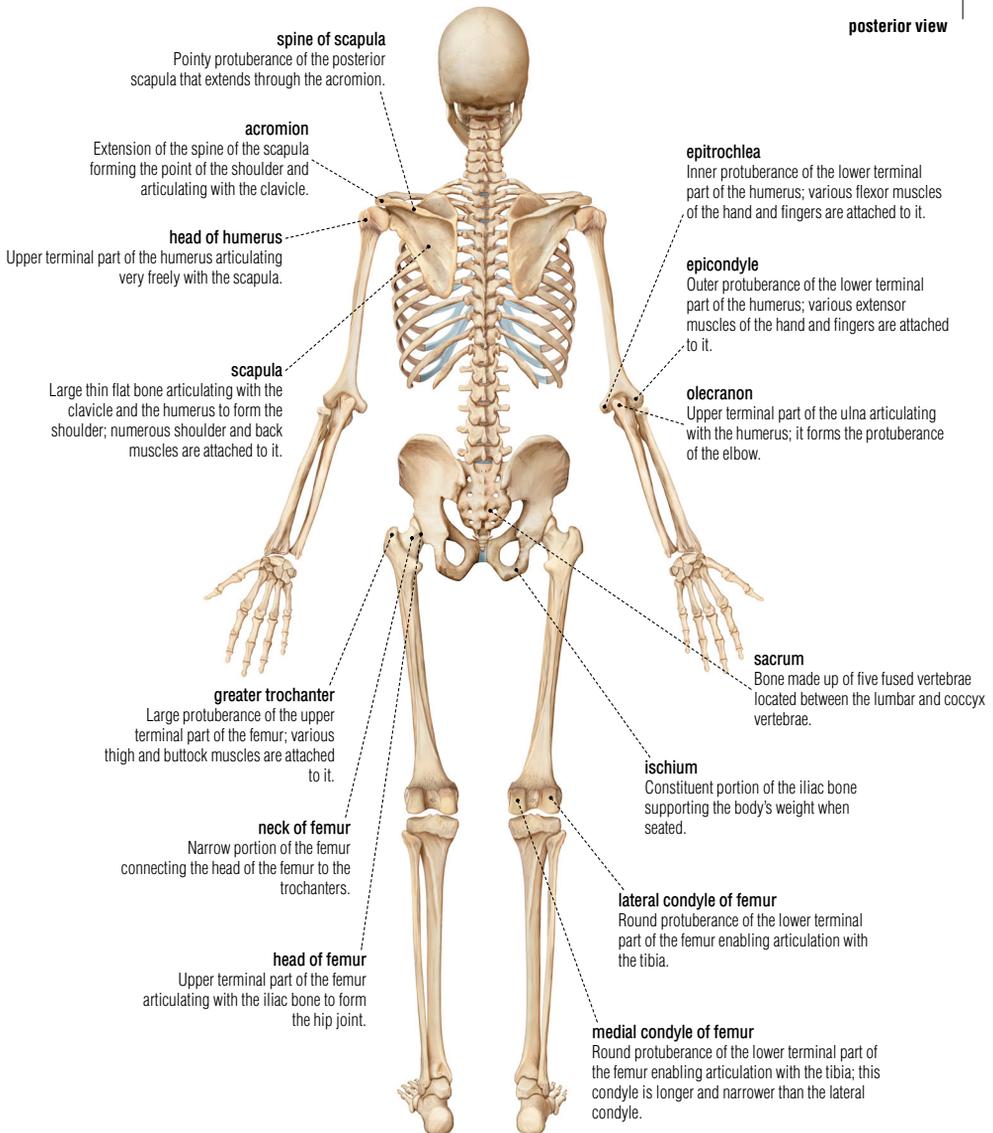
**lower limbs**

Group of bones forming the thighs, lower legs, and feet, and which make it possible to walk.

anterior view



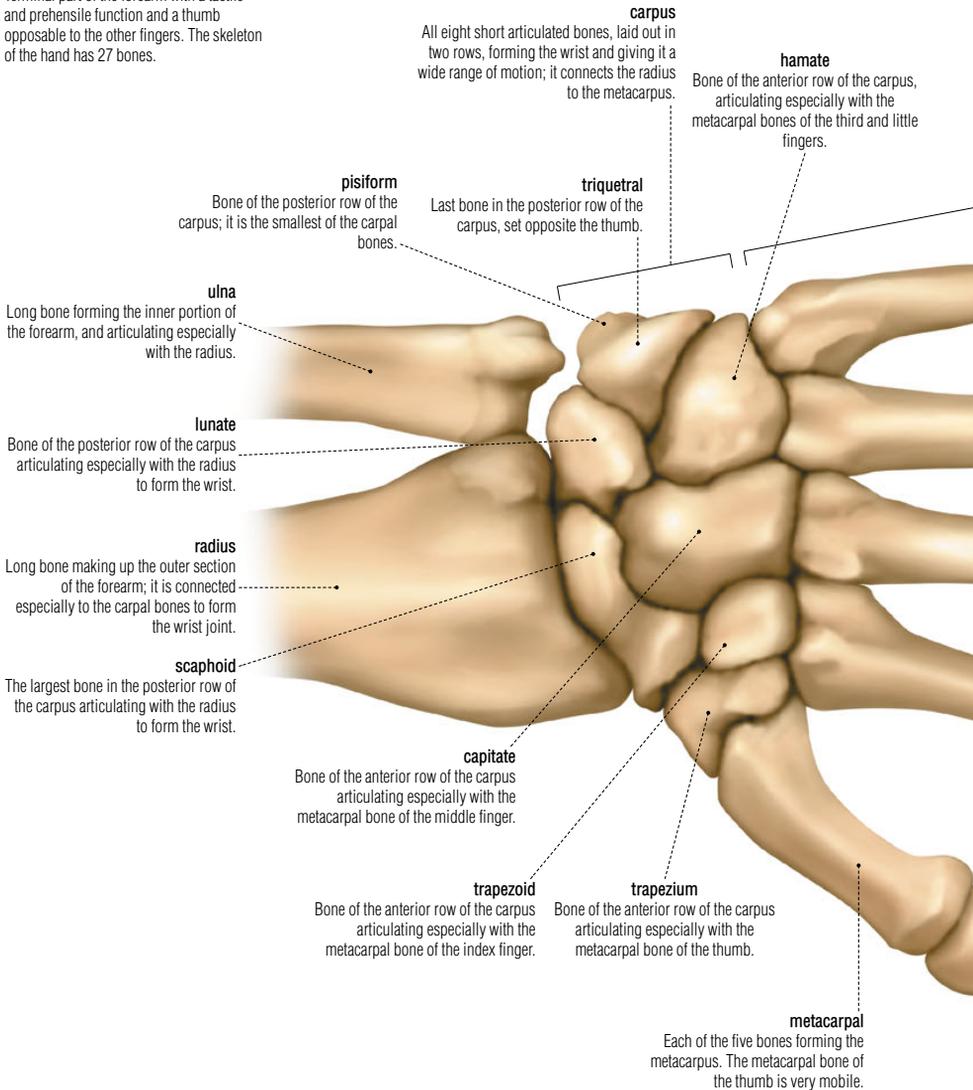
posterior view



skeleton

**hand**

Terminal part of the forearm with a tactile and prehensile function and a thumb opposable to the other fingers. The skeleton of the hand has 27 bones.

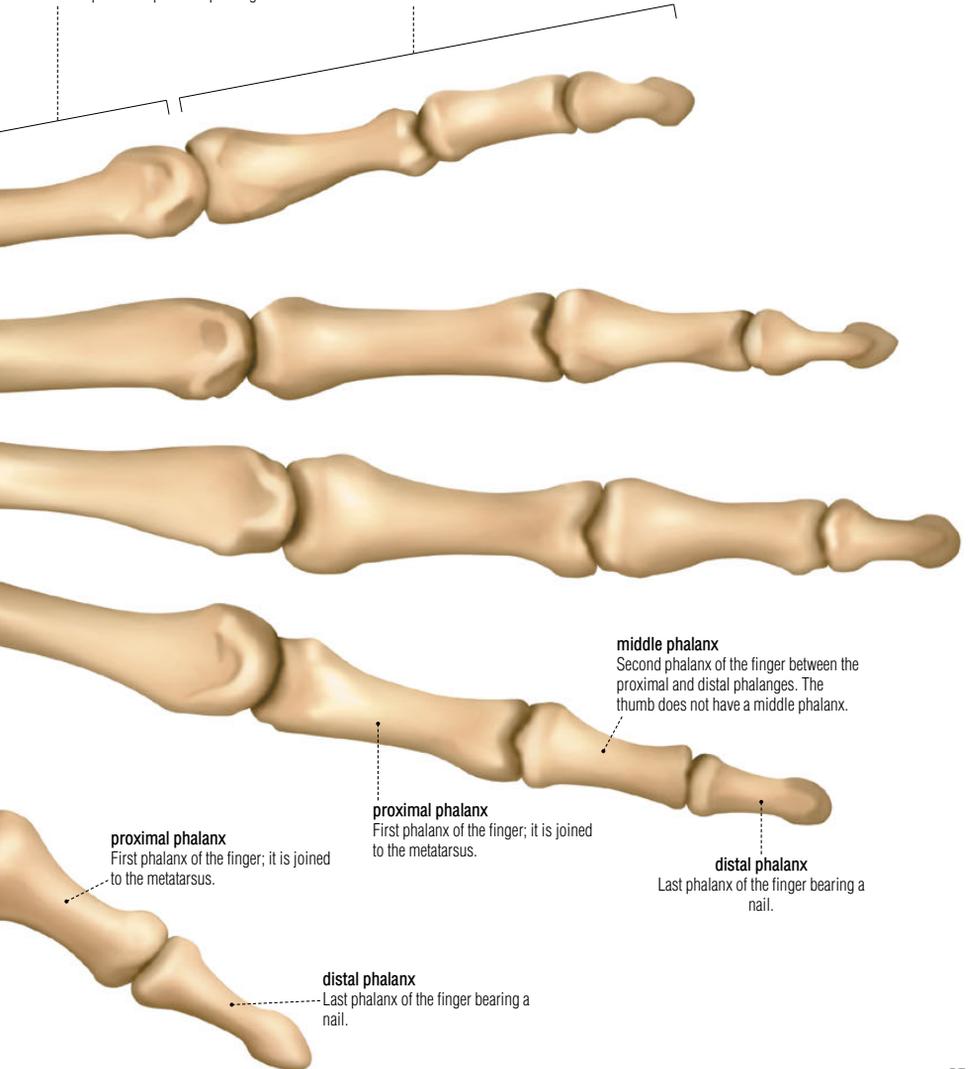


**metacarpus**

All five long bones forming the palm of the hand; they link the anterior row of the carpus to the proximal phalanges.

**phalanges**

Articulated bones forming the skeleton of the fingers; each finger has three, while the thumb has two.



## skeleton

**foot**

Terminal part of the leg enabling upright stance and walking. The skeleton of the foot is made up of 26 bones.

**tibia**

Long bone forming the inner portion of the leg; it is connected especially to the tarsus to form the ankle joint.

**fibula**

Long bone forming the outer portion of the leg; it is connected especially to the bones of the tarsus to form the ankle joint.

**tarsus**

All seven short articulated bones, laid out in two rows, making up the heel and the ankle; it connects the tibia and the fibula to the metatarsus.

**talus**

Short bone of the tarsus that, with the calcaneus, ensures rotation of the ankle and, with the tibia and fibula, flexion and extension of the foot.

**2nd cuneiform**

Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bone of the second toe and the scaphoid bone.

**navicular**

Bone of the posterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the talus and the three cuneiforms.

**calcaneus**

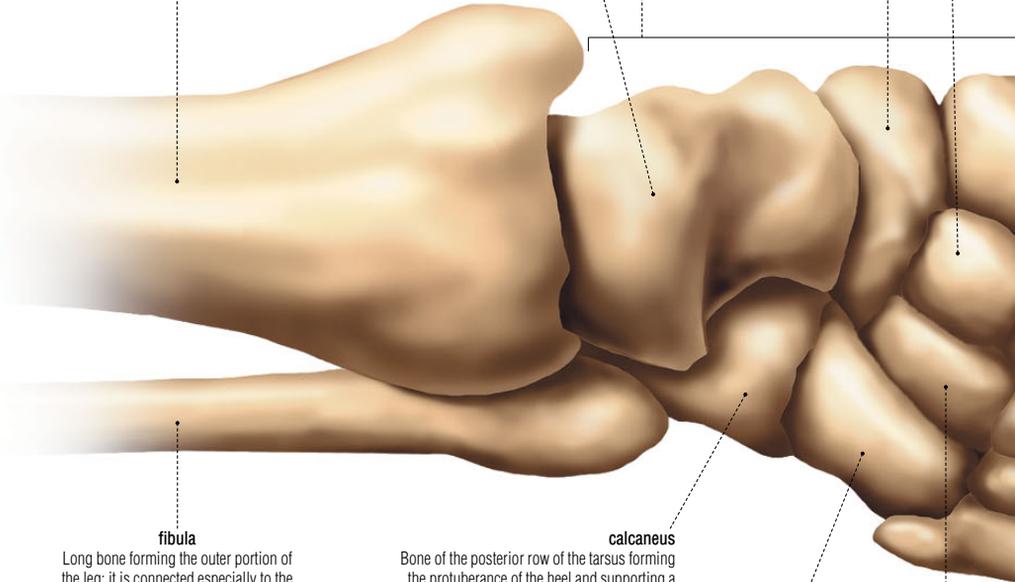
Bone of the posterior row of the tarsus forming the protuberance of the heel and supporting a large portion of the body's weight; the Achilles tendon is attached to it.

**cuboid**

Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bones of the two last toes.

**lateral cuneiform**

Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bone of the third toe.



**metatarsus**

All five long bones that make up the sole of the foot; it connects the anterior row of the tarsus to the proximal phalanges.

**proximal phalanx**

First phalanx of the toe; it is joined to the metatarsus.

**1st cuneiform**

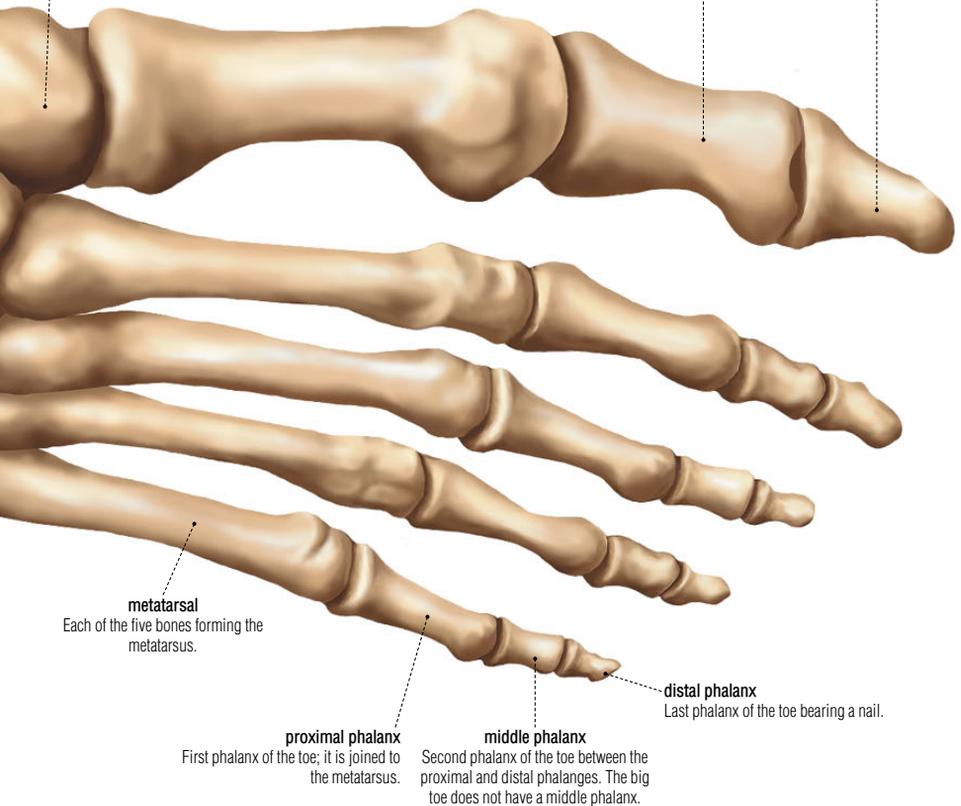
Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bone of the big toe and the scaphoid bone.

**phalanges**

Articulated bones forming the skeleton of the toes. Each toe has three, while the big toe has only two.

**distal phalanx**

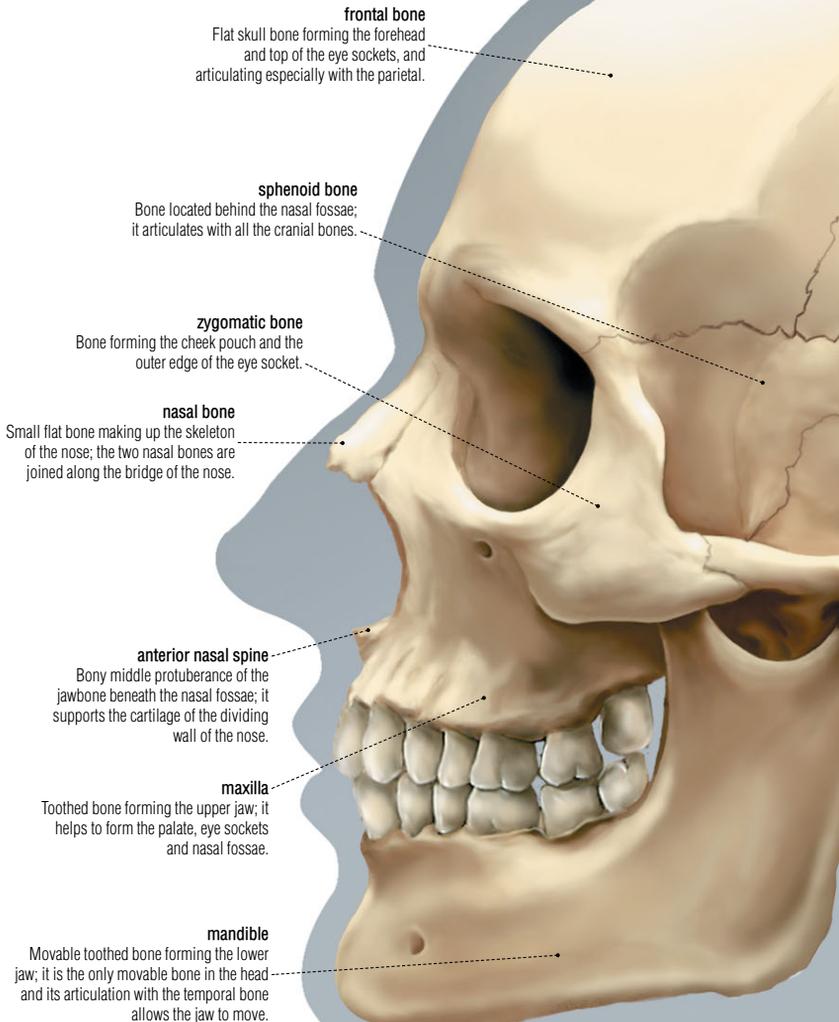
Last phalanx of the toe bearing a nail.



## skeleton

**lateral view of skull**

Skull: bony structure enclosing and protecting the brain. The eight cranial bones in an adult are fused to each other by means of sutures.

**frontal bone**

Flat skull bone forming the forehead and top of the eye sockets, and articulating especially with the parietal.

**sphenoid bone**

Bone located behind the nasal fossae; it articulates with all the cranial bones.

**zygomatic bone**

Bone forming the cheek pouch and the outer edge of the eye socket.

**nasal bone**

Small flat bone making up the skeleton of the nose; the two nasal bones are joined along the bridge of the nose.

**anterior nasal spine**

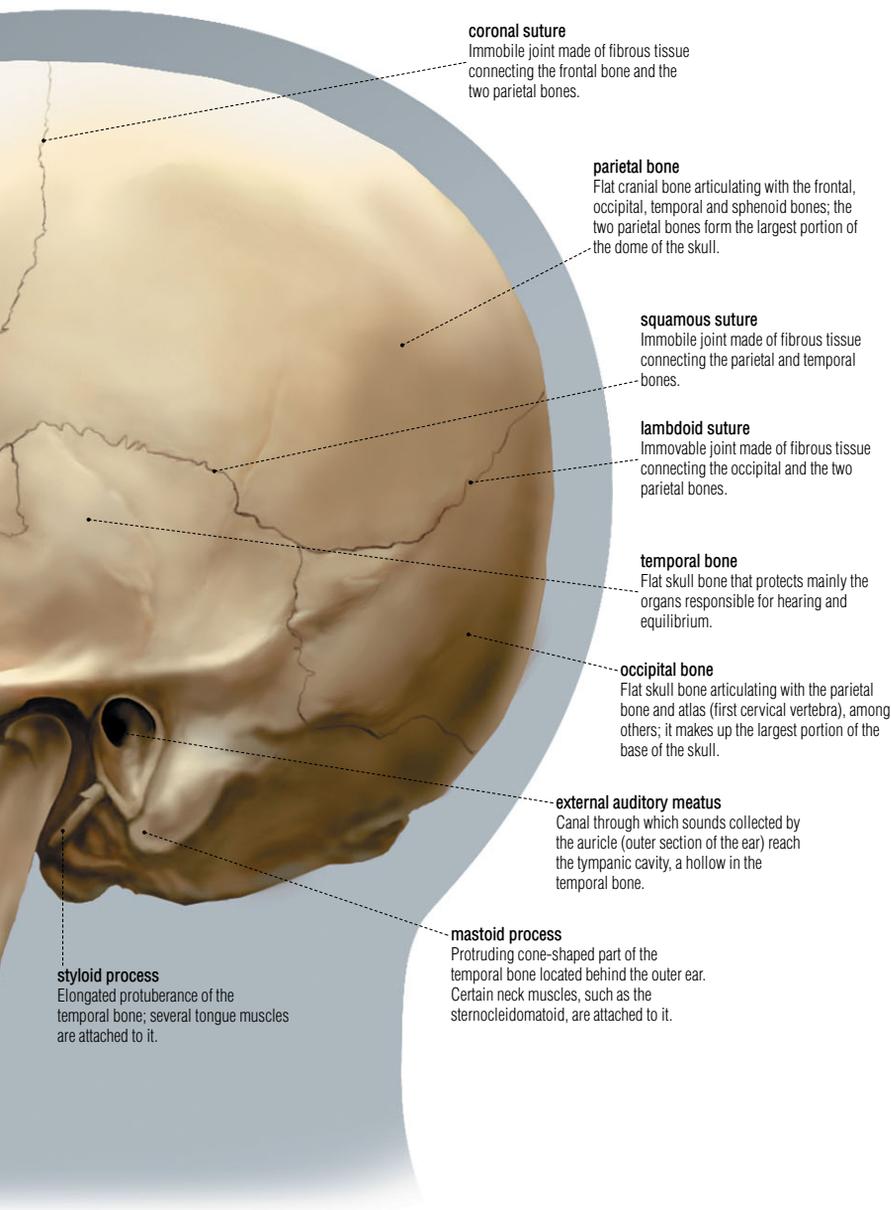
Bony middle protuberance of the jawbone beneath the nasal fossae; it supports the cartilage of the dividing wall of the nose.

**maxilla**

Toothed bone forming the upper jaw; it helps to form the palate, eye sockets and nasal fossae.

**mandible**

Movable toothed bone forming the lower jaw; it is the only movable bone in the head and its articulation with the temporal bone allows the jaw to move.



**bottom of the skull****occipital bone**

Flat skull bone articulating with the parietal bone and atlas (first cervical vertebra), among others; it makes up the largest portion of the base of the skull.

**foramen magnum**

Opening in the occipital bone through which the medulla oblongata passes.

**carotid canal**

Opening in the temporal bone through which the internal carotid artery passes.

**sphenoid bone**

Bone located behind the nasal fossae; it articulates with all the cranial bones.

**zygomatic process**

Projection of the temporal bone that forms the upper edge of the cheek.

**zygomatic bone**

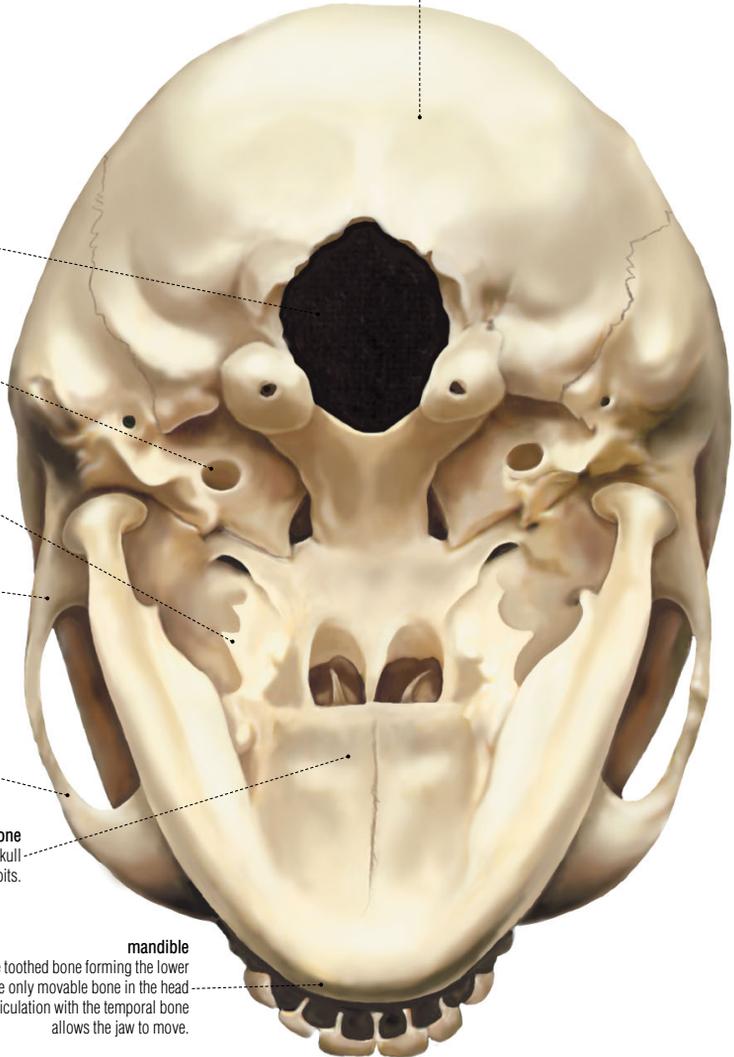
Bone forming the cheek pouch and the outer edge of the eye socket.

**palatine bone**

Bone spanning the width of the skull - located behind the orbits.

**mandible**

Movable toothed bone forming the lower jaw; it is the only movable bone in the head and its articulation with the temporal bone allows the jaw to move.



**anterior fontanelle**

Membranous space between the frontal and two parietal bones; it closes usually at the age of two or three years. This is the largest of the fontanelles.

**parietal bone**

Flat cranial bone fusing especially to the frontal and occipital bones during the growth years.

**lateral view of child's skull**

The skull bones of the fetus and child are separated by membranous spaces (fontanelles). They disappear during the course of ossification.

**frontal bone**

Flat skull bone forming the forehead and top of the eye sockets, and articulating especially with the parietal.

**coronal suture**

Joint connecting the frontal and parietal bones on each side of the skull; it ossifies during the growth years (the anterior fontanelle closes up).

**posterior fontanelle**

Membranous space between the occipital and two parietal bones; it closes at about the age of two or three months. This fontanelle is smaller than the anterior fontanelle.

**occipital bone**

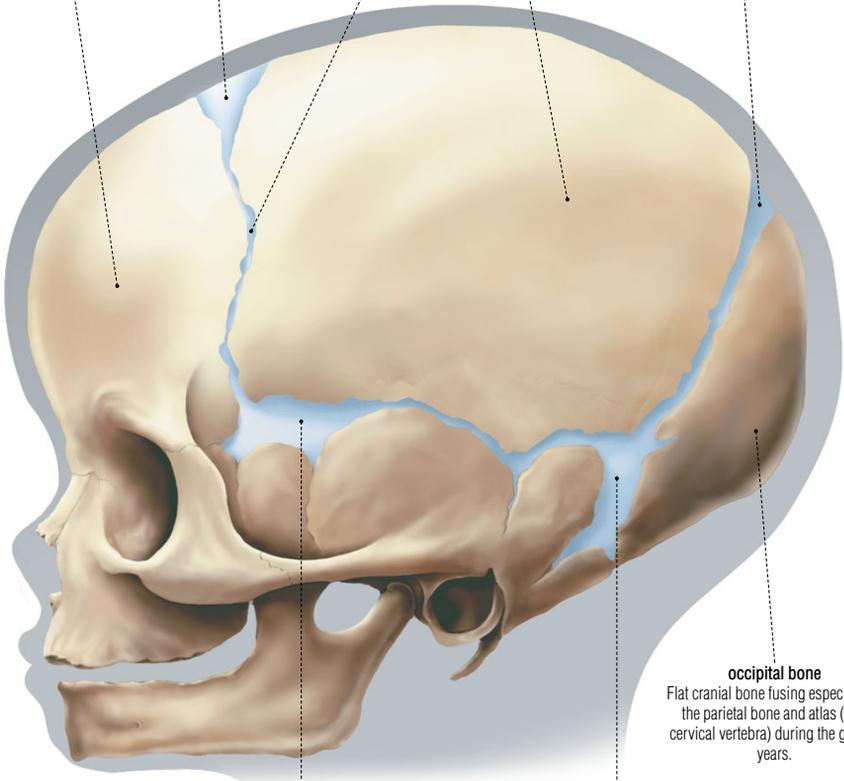
Flat cranial bone fusing especially to the parietal bone and atlas (first cervical vertebra) during the growth years.

**sphenoidal fontanelle**

Membranous space between the frontal, parietal, temporal and sphenoid bones; it closes at about the age of two or three months.

**mastoid fontanelle**

Membranous space between the parietal, occipital and temporal bones; it closes at about the age of 18 months. This fontanelle is smaller than the sphenoidal fontanelle.



## skeleton

**vertebral column**

The vertebral column is made up of different kinds of articulated bones (vertebrae) supporting the skeleton and protecting the spinal cord.

**cervical vertebra (7)**

Bony part of the neck forming the upper terminal part of the vertebral column.

**intervertebral disk**

Flat rounded cartilaginous structure separating two vertebrae; its elasticity allows the vertebral column to move.

**thoracic vertebra (12)**

Bony part supporting the ribs located between the cervical and lumbar vertebrae.

**lumbar vertebra (5)**

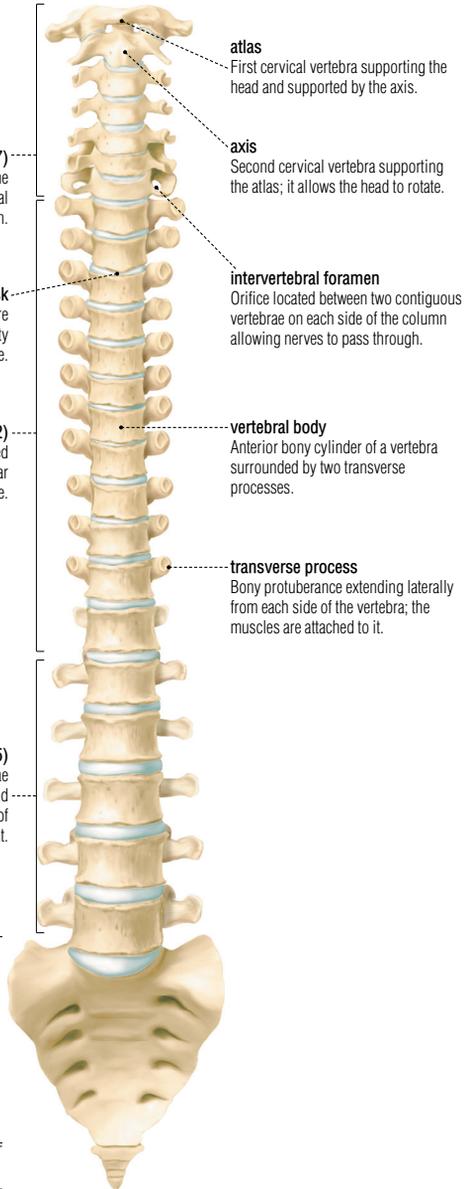
Bony part larger than the other vertebrae located between the dorsal vertebrae and the sacrum; it supports a major portion of the body's weight.

**sacrum**

Bone made up of five fused vertebrae located between the lumbar and coccyx vertebrae.

**coccyx**

Bone made up of four to six fused vertebrae in the lower terminal part of the vertebral column, and articulating with the sacrum.

**atlas**

First cervical vertebra supporting the head and supported by the axis.

**axis**

Second cervical vertebra supporting the atlas; it allows the head to rotate.

**intervertebral foramen**

Orifice located between two contiguous vertebrae on each side of the column allowing nerves to pass through.

**vertebral body**

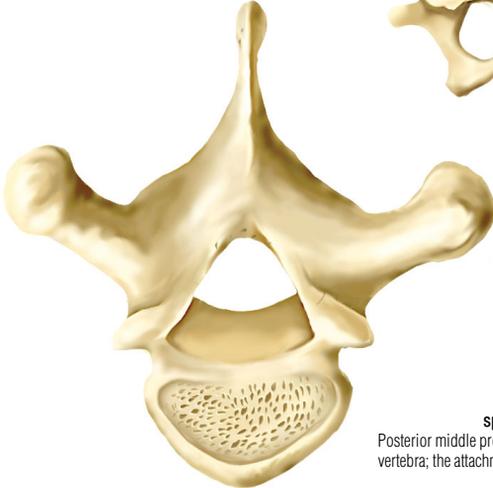
Anterior bony cylinder of a vertebra surrounded by two transverse processes.

**transverse process**

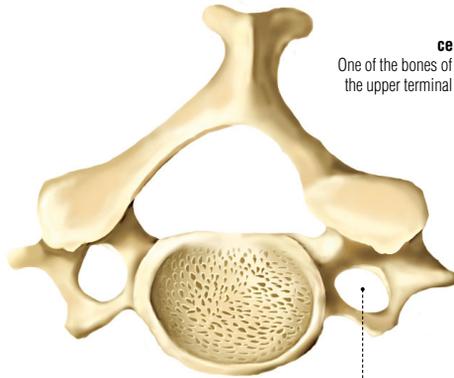
Bony protuberance extending laterally from each side of the vertebra; the muscles are attached to it.

**thoracic vertebra**

One of the bones of the spine that support the ribs, located between the cervical and lumbar vertebrae.

**cervical vertebra**

One of the bones of the neck forming the upper terminal part of the spine.

**transverse foramen**

Opening through which blood vessels and nerves pass.

**lumbar vertebra**

One of the bones of the spine, larger than the other vertebrae, located between the thoracic vertebrae and the sacrum, that support a major portion of the body's weight.

**spinous process**

Posterior middle protuberance of the vertebra; the attachment point for the back muscles.

**transverse process**

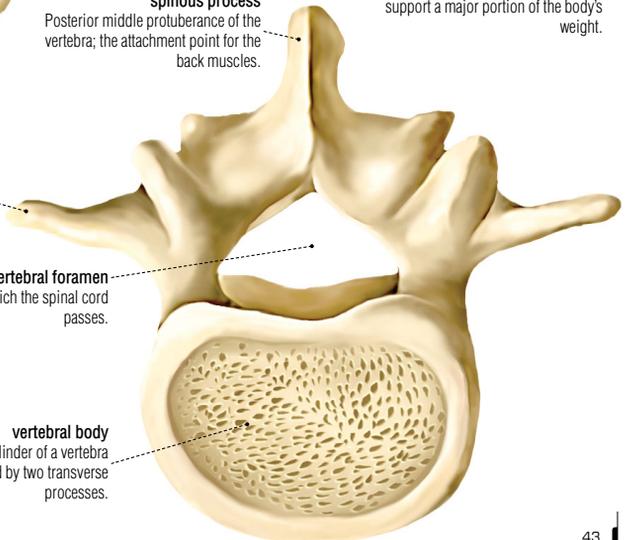
Bony protuberance extending laterally from each side of the vertebra; the muscles are attached to it.

**vertebral foramen**

Cavity through which the spinal cord passes.

**vertebral body**

Anterior bony cylinder of a vertebra surrounded by two transverse processes.



## skeleton

**intervertebral joints**

Elements that join the vertebrae together in such a way that the spine can be mobile and flexible.

**transverse process**

Bony protuberance extending laterally from each side of the vertebra; the muscles are attached to it.

**intervertebral foramen**

Orifice located between two contiguous vertebrae on each side of the column allowing nerves to pass through.

**spinous process**

Posterior middle protuberance of the vertebra; the attachment point for the back muscles.

**articular processes**

Small vertical projections on which the vertebrae are articulated.

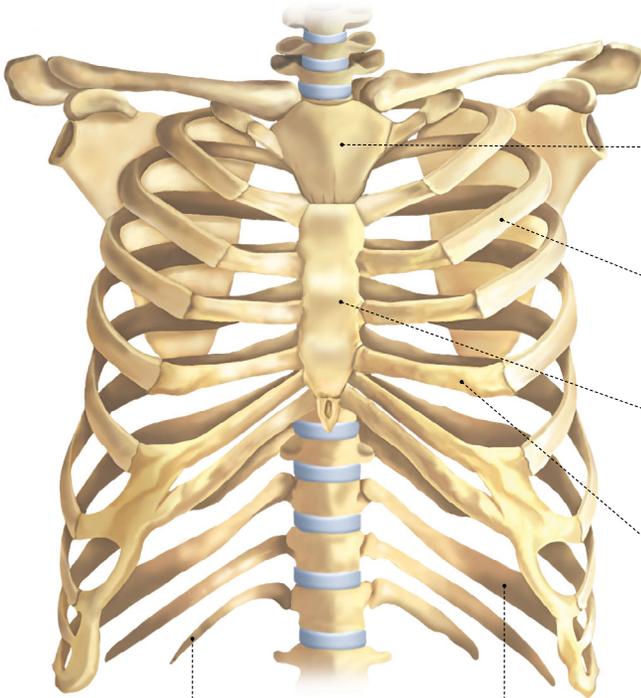
**vertebral body**

Anterior bony cylinder of a vertebra surrounded by two transverse processes.

**intervertebral disk**

Flat rounded cartilaginous structure separating two vertebrae; its elasticity allows the vertebral column to move.





**thoracic cage**

Bony structure composed of 12 pairs of ribs articulated with the 12 thoracic vertebrae and the sternum. It covers and protects the organs of the thorax.

**manubrium**

Upper part of the sternum, which articulates with the first two costal cartilages and the clavicles.

**true rib (7)**

Thin curved bone, one end of which articulates with the thoracic vertebrae; the other end attaches to the sternum.

**sternum**

Long flat bone to which the ribs, in particular, are attached.

**costal cartilage**

Elongated cartilage at the end of the rib that articulates with the sternum.

**floating rib (2)**

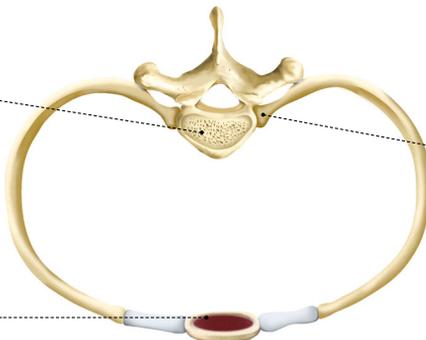
Thin curved bone articulating with the dorsal vertebrae at one end and remaining free at the other end.

**false rib (3)**

Slender curved bone articulated with the dorsal vertebrae at one end and attached to the upper rib at the other end.

**thoracic vertebra**

Bone supporting the ribs, located between the cervical and lumbar vertebrae.



**rib**

Long, flat arc-shaped bone; the ribs form the sides of the ribcage.

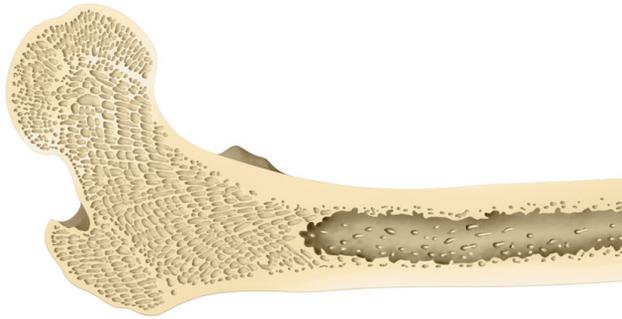
**head of rib**

Posterior extremity of a rib, which articulates with a thoracic vertebra at two attachment points.

**sternum**

Long flat bone to which the ribs, in particular, are attached.

parts of a long bone



**distal epiphysis**

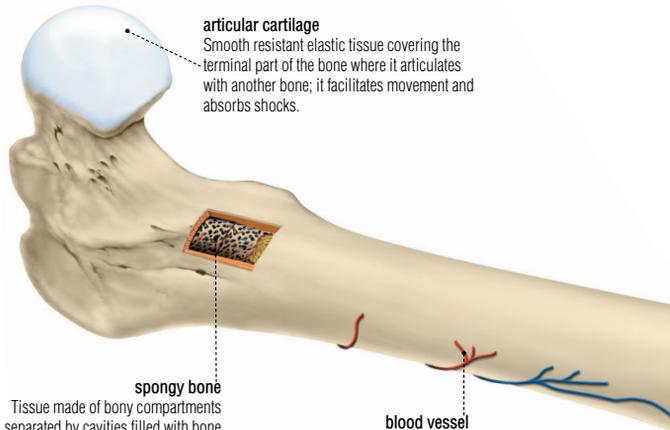
Enlarged terminal part of the bone, farthest from the center of the body, made of spongy tissue and articulating with neighboring bones.

**metaphysis**

Part of the bone between the epiphysis and the diaphysis; it contains the connecting cartilage enabling the bone to grow, and disappears at adulthood.

**structure of a long bone**

Long bone: elongated bone consisting of a body (diaphysis) and two terminal parts (epiphyses), such as the leg and arm bones (femur, radius, phalanges and others).



**articular cartilage**

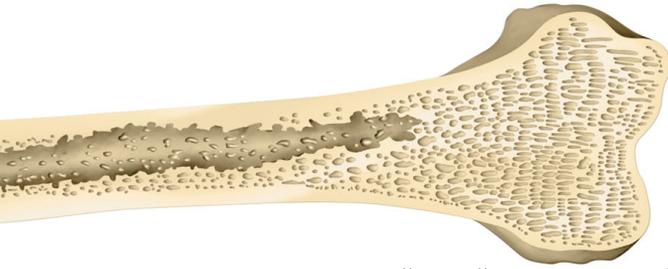
Smooth resistant elastic tissue covering the terminal part of the bone where it articulates with another bone; it facilitates movement and absorbs shocks.

**spongy bone**

Tissue made of bony compartments separated by cavities filled with bone marrow, blood vessels and nerves; this structure gives bones their lightness.

**blood vessel**

Channel in the bone through which the blood circulates, carrying the nutrients and mineral salts the bone requires.



**diaphysis**

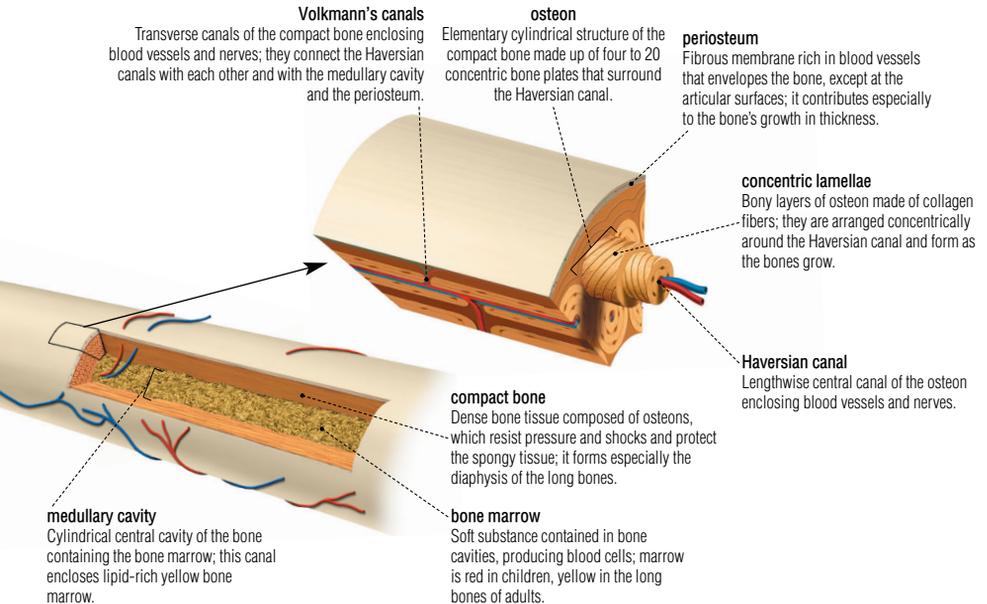
Elongated hollow central portion of the bone located between the metaphyses; it is made of compact tissue and encloses the medullary cavity.

**metaphysis**

Part of the bone between the epiphysis and the diaphysis; it contains the connecting cartilage enabling the bone to grow, and disappears at adulthood.

**proximal epiphysis**

Enlarged terminal part of the bone, nearest the center of the body, made of spongy tissue and articulating with neighboring bones.



**Volkman's canals**

Transverse canals of the compact bone enclosing blood vessels and nerves; they connect the Haversian canals with each other and with the medullary cavity and the periosteum.

**osteon**

Elementary cylindrical structure of the compact bone made up of four to 20 concentric bone plates that surround the Haversian canal.

**periosteum**

Fibrous membrane rich in blood vessels that envelops the bone, except at the articular surfaces; it contributes especially to the bone's growth in thickness.

**concentric lamellae**

Bony layers of osteon made of collagen fibers; they are arranged concentrically around the Haversian canal and form as the bones grow.

**Haversian canal**

Lengthwise central canal of the osteon enclosing blood vessels and nerves.

**compact bone**

Dense bone tissue composed of osteons, which resist pressure and shocks and protect the spongy tissue; it forms especially the diaphysis of the long bones.

**bone marrow**

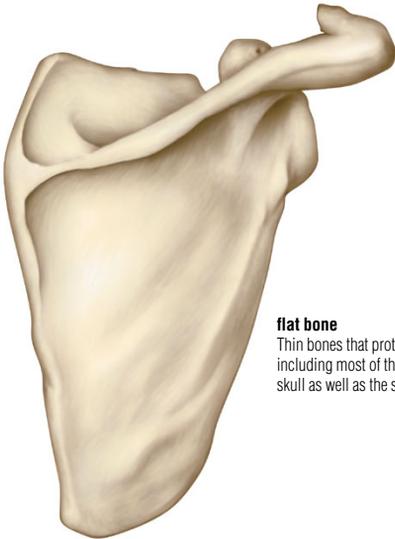
Soft substance contained in bone cavities, producing blood cells; marrow is red in children, yellow in the long bones of adults.

**medullary cavity**

Cylindrical central cavity of the bone containing the bone marrow; this canal encloses lipid-rich yellow bone marrow.

**types of bones**

Bones: rigid structures connected by joints to which muscles are attached. The skeleton has more than 200 bones divided into four major groups.

**flat bone**

Thin bones that protect certain organs, including most of the bones of the skull as well as the scapula.

**long bone**

Elongated bone to which powerful muscles, such as those of the leg and arm, are attached.

**short bone**

Bones shaped somewhat like cubes that facilitate flexibility of the joints; examples include the bones of the wrist and ankle.

**irregular bone**  
Bones of varying shapes and sizes, such as the vertebrae and certain bones of the skull or pelvis.

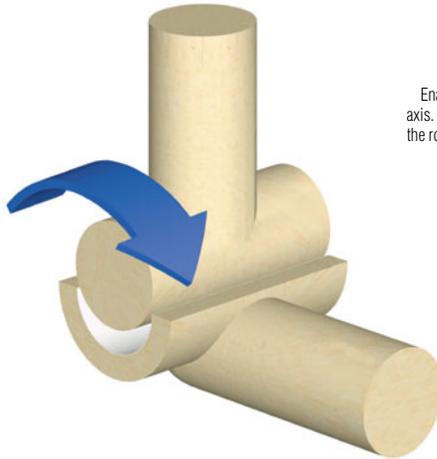


**types of synovial joints**

Joints bounded by a fibrous capsule whose inner membrane secretes a viscous lubricating liquid (synovia), thus allowing a wide range of motion.

**hinge joint**

Enables flexion and extension along a single axis. The elbow is a particularly good example: the round terminal part of the humerus turns in the hollow of the ulna.

**elbow**

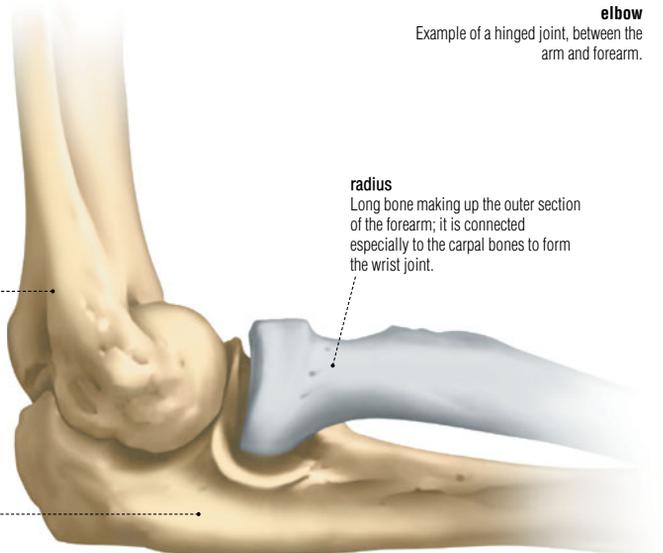
Example of a hinged joint, between the arm and forearm.

**humerus**  
Long arm bone articulating with the scapula to form the shoulder, and with the radius and the ulna to form the elbow.

**radius**

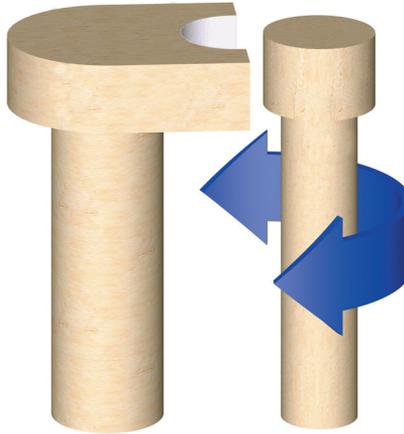
Long bone making up the outer section of the forearm; it is connected especially to the carpal bones to form the wrist joint.

**ulna**  
Long bone forming the inner portion of the forearm articulating especially with the humerus.

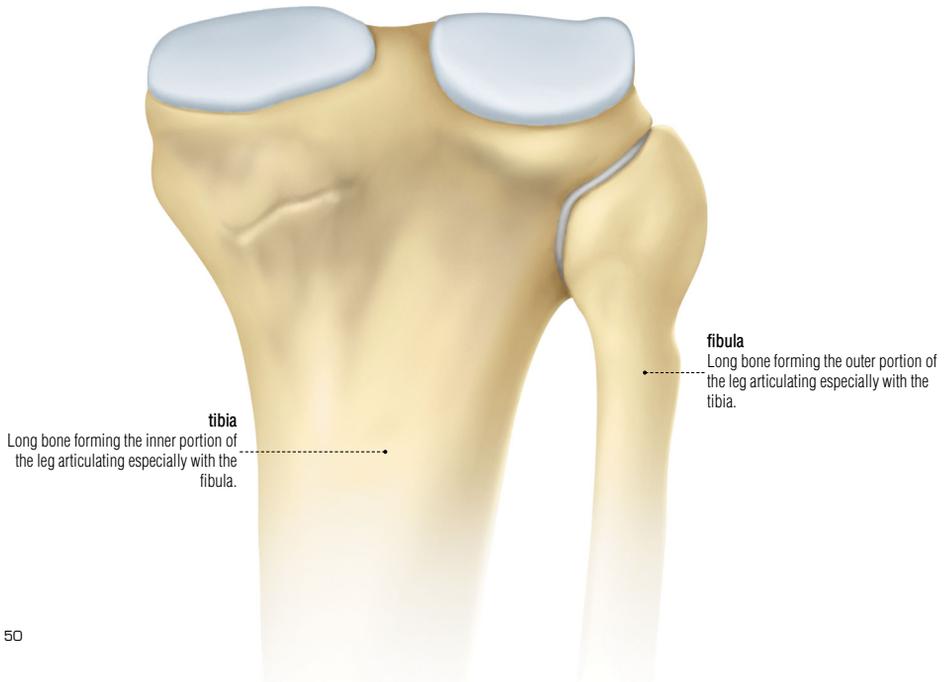


**pivot joint**

Enables rotation around a lengthwise axis: the cylindrical terminal part of a bone is encased in a hollow cylinder. Examples include the tibia and the fibula.

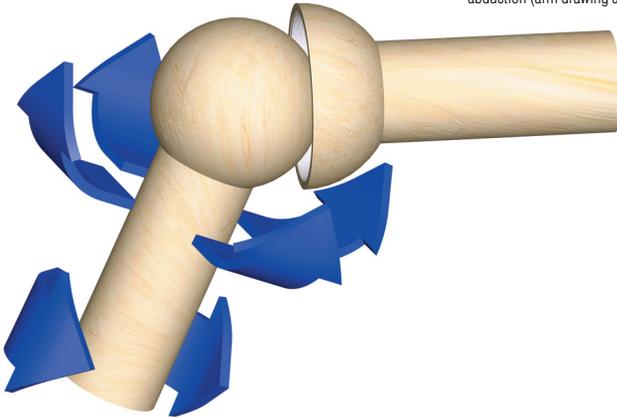
**leg**

Example of a pivot joint, between the fibula and the tibia.

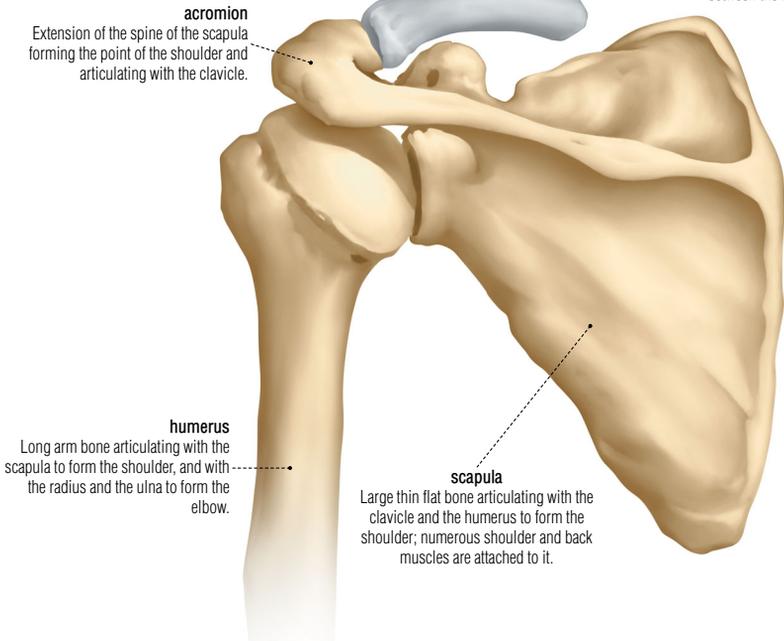


**ball-and-socket joint**

Allows movement along three axes, such as in the elbow: flexion and extension, rotation, and adduction (arm drawing near the trunk) and abduction (arm drawing away from the trunk).

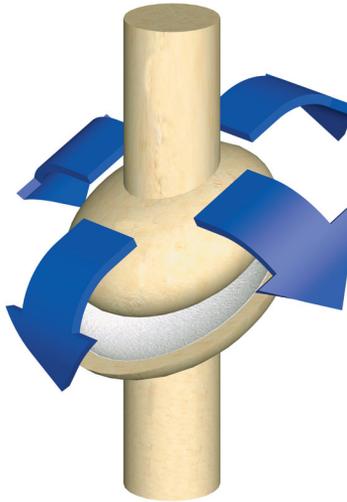
**shoulder**

Example of a ball-and-socket joint, between the humerus and the thorax.

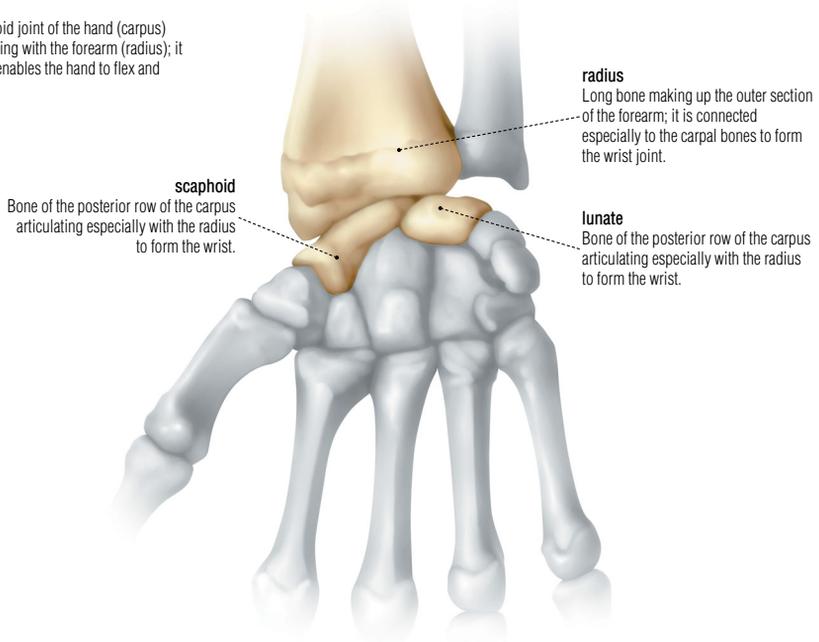


**condyloid joint**

An example is the wrist, which the hand can move on two axes: flexion and extension; it can also be tilted sideways (toward the radius and ulna).

**wrist**

Condyloid joint of the hand (carpus) articulating with the forearm (radius); it mainly enables the hand to flex and extend.

**radius**

Long bone making up the outer section of the forearm; it is connected especially to the carpal bones to form the wrist joint.

**scaphoid**

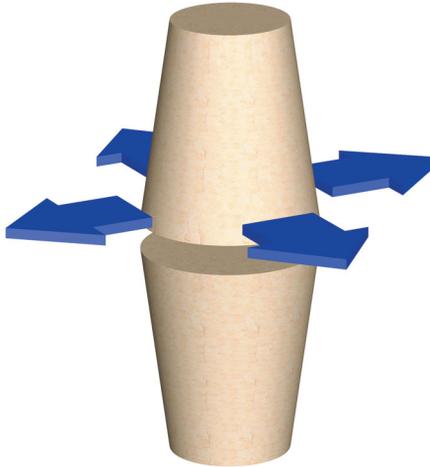
Bone of the posterior row of the carpus articulating especially with the radius to form the wrist.

**lunate**

Bone of the posterior row of the carpus articulating especially with the radius to form the wrist.

**gliding joint**

Surfaces of these joints are relatively flat and not very mobile; they allow only a narrow gliding range (e.g., vertebrae, certain bones of the carpus).

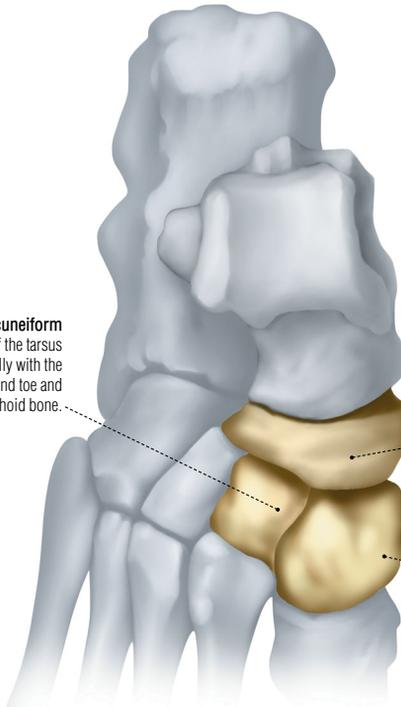
**tarsus**

Gliding joints that ensure the displacement of certain bones of the tarsus.

**2nd cuneiform**  
Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bone of the second toe and the scaphoid bone.

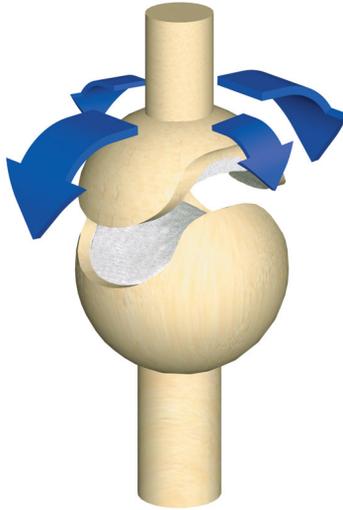
**navicular**  
Bone of the posterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the talus and the three cuneiforms.

**1st cuneiform**  
Bone of the anterior row of the tarsus articulating especially with the metatarsal bone of the big toe and the scaphoid bone.



**saddle joint**

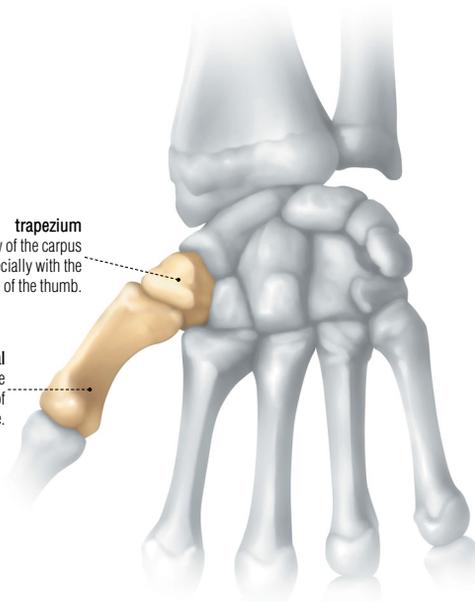
Resembles the condyloid joint but allows a wider range of motion; this type of joint is rare.

**thumb**

The thumb is an example of a saddle joint.

**trapezium**  
Bone of the anterior row of the carpus articulating especially with the metacarpal bone of the thumb.

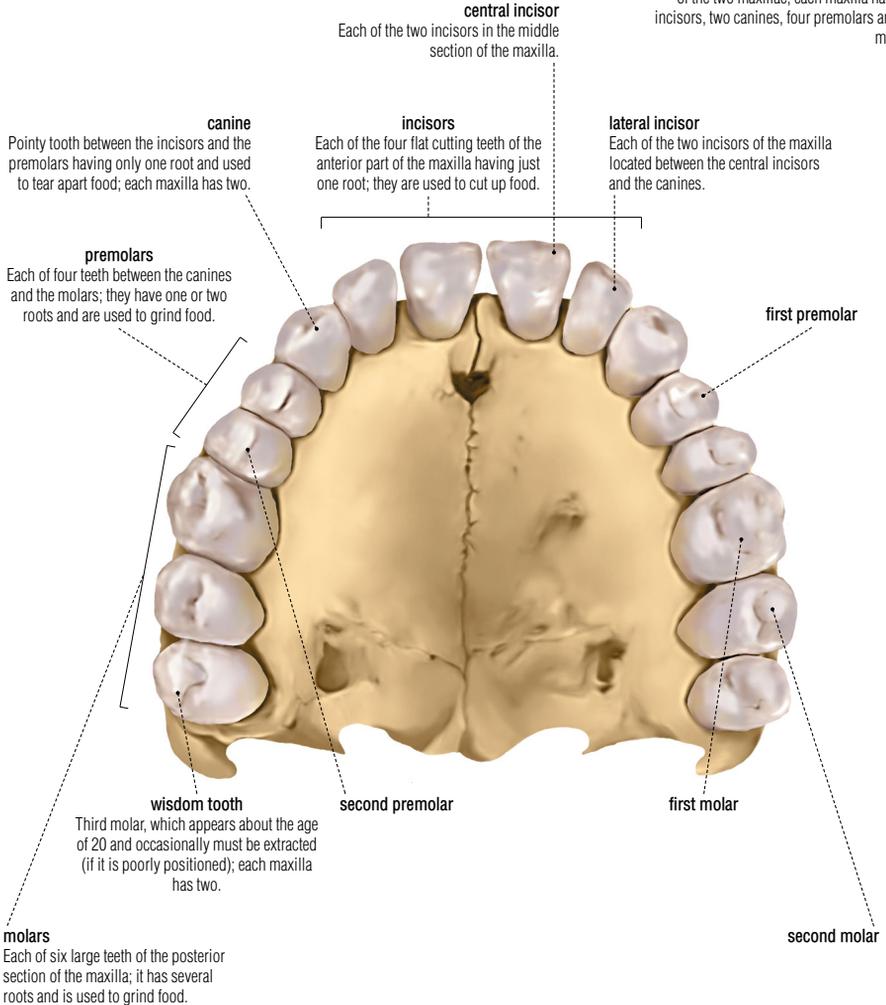
**metacarpal**  
Each of the five bones forming the metacarpus. The metacarpal bone of the thumb is very mobile.



Hard organs implanted in maxillae and used for masticating food; a child usually has 20 and an adult 32 (16 per jaw).

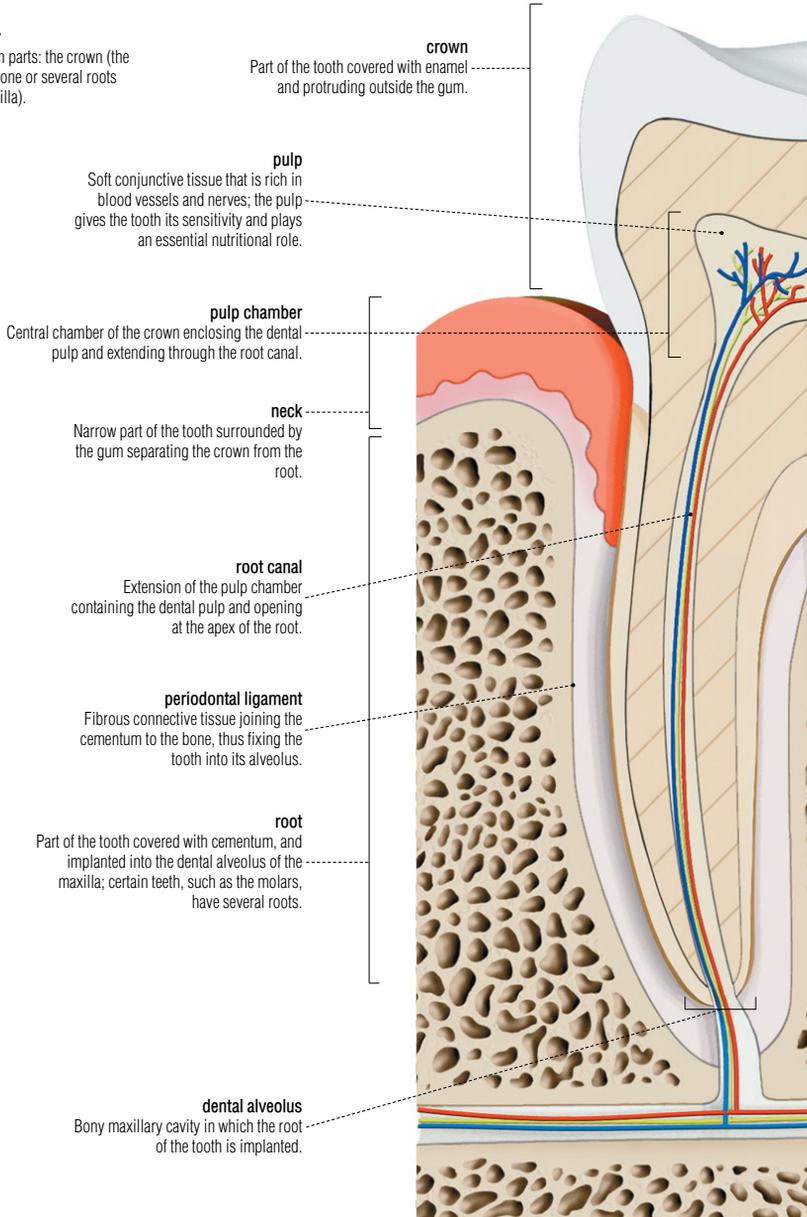
**human denture**

The set of teeth placed symmetrically at the edge of the two maxillae; each maxilla has four incisors, two canines, four premolars and six molars.



**cross section of a molar**

Teeth are formed of two main parts: the crown (the visible protruding part) and one or several roots (the part inserted in the maxilla).



**crown**

Part of the tooth covered with enamel and protruding outside the gum.

**pulp**

Soft conjunctive tissue that is rich in blood vessels and nerves; the pulp gives the tooth its sensitivity and plays an essential nutritional role.

**pulp chamber**

Central chamber of the crown enclosing the dental pulp and extending through the root canal.

**neck**

Narrow part of the tooth surrounded by the gum separating the crown from the root.

**root canal**

Extension of the pulp chamber containing the dental pulp and opening at the apex of the root.

**periodontal ligament**

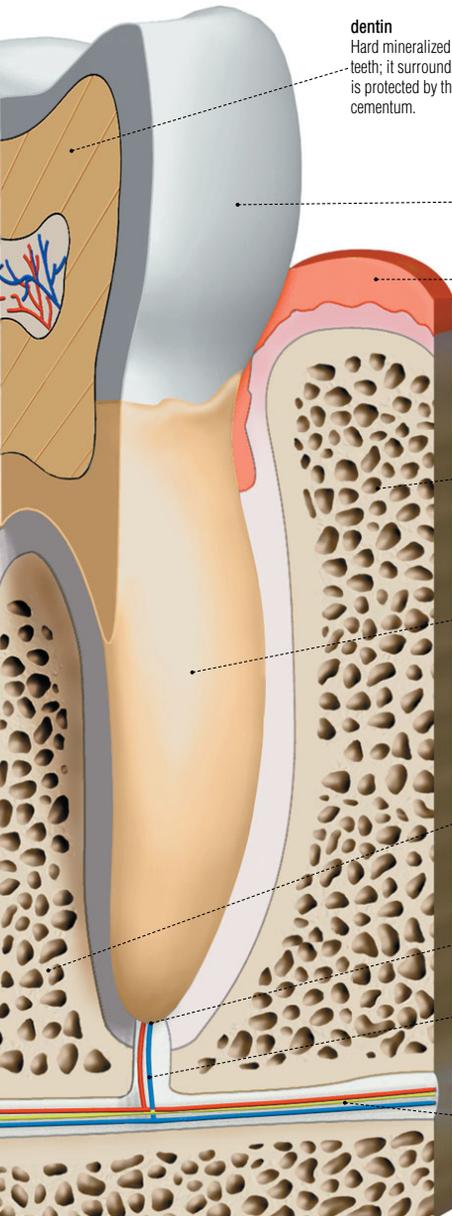
Fibrous connective tissue joining the cementum to the bone, thus fixing the tooth into its alveolus.

**root**

Part of the tooth covered with cementum, and implanted into the dental alveolus of the maxilla; certain teeth, such as the molars, have several roots.

**dental alveolus**

Bony maxillary cavity in which the root of the tooth is implanted.

**dentin**

Hard mineralized tissue forming the teeth; it surrounds the dental pulp and is protected by the enamel and cementum.

**enamel**

Highly mineralized tissue covering and protecting the dentin of the crown; it is the hardest tissue in the organism.

**gum**

Thick section of the mucous membrane of the mouth that is rich in blood vessels and nerves; it covers the edge of the dental alveolus and adheres to the neck.

**maxillary bone**

Jawbone into which the teeth are inserted.

**cementum**

Hard mineralized tissue comparable to bone covering and protecting the dentin of the root.

**alveolar bone**

Section of the maxilla bone surrounding the dental alveola; its presence depends on the presence of teeth: it forms and disappears when they do.

**apex**

Terminal part of the dental root whose opening (apical foramen) allows blood vessels and nerves to pass through.

**apical foramen**

Narrow orifice located at the terminal part of the apex allowing blood vessels and nerves to pass into the tooth.

**plexus of nerves**

Grouping of blood vessels and nerves that enters the pulp through the apical foramen to nourish the tooth.

# blood circulation

Propelled by the contractions of the heart, blood travels through the blood vessels of the body bringing oxygen and nutrients and removing waste.

## principal arteries

The arteries (except for the pulmonary arteries) distribute oxygenated blood throughout the body.

### common carotid artery

Branch of the aorta flowing to the head and upper portion of the neck; it is divided into internal and external carotid arteries.

### arch of aorta

Second segment of the aorta, which branches into the arteries flowing to the head and upper limbs; with the ascending aorta, it forms the arch of the aorta.

### subclavian artery

Main artery of the upper limb passing through the clavicle and extending through the axillary artery; it also flows to the lower section of the neck.

### pulmonary artery

Artery carrying blood that is poor in oxygen and rich in carbon dioxide to the lungs; it is the only artery that transports oxygen-poor blood.

### axillary artery

Artery crossing the hollow of the armpit and extending through the brachial artery; it also circulates through the thoracic wall and the shoulder.

### brachial artery

Artery flowing along the humerus and supplying the flexor muscles of the arm; it divides into the radial and ulnar arteries at the bend in the elbow.

### renal artery

Branch of the abdominal aorta circulating blood to the kidney.

### superior mesenteric artery

Branch of the abdominal aorta that supplies blood to the ascending colon and half of the transverse colon.

### common iliac artery

Branch of the abdominal aorta that circulates blood to the pelvis and the lower limbs; it divides into the internal and external iliac arteries.

### abdominal aorta

Fourth segment of the aorta circulating to all the organs and to the walls of the abdomen; it branches into the common iliac arteries.

### internal iliac artery

Branch of the common iliac artery flowing to the pelvis, the genital organs and the inner thigh.

### femoral artery

Main artery of the lower limb; it is a continuation of the external iliac artery and runs along the femur.

### anterior tibial artery

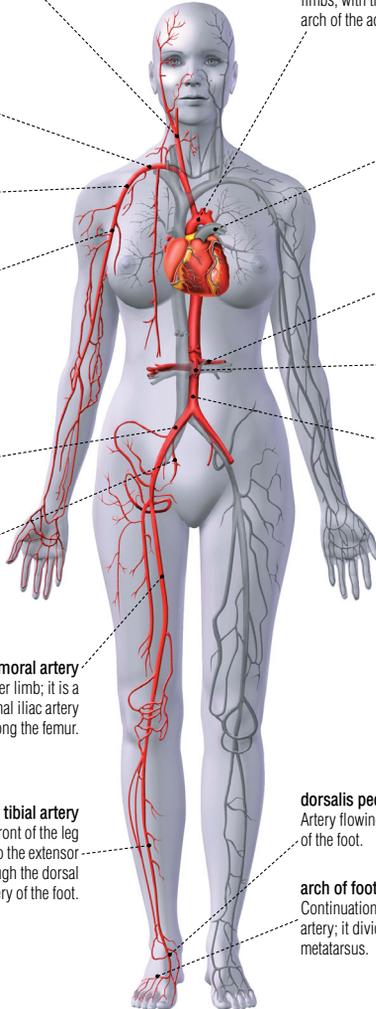
Artery running along the front of the leg and supplying blood to the extensor muscles; it extends through the dorsal artery of the foot.

### dorsalis pedis artery

Artery flowing to the ankle and the back of the foot.

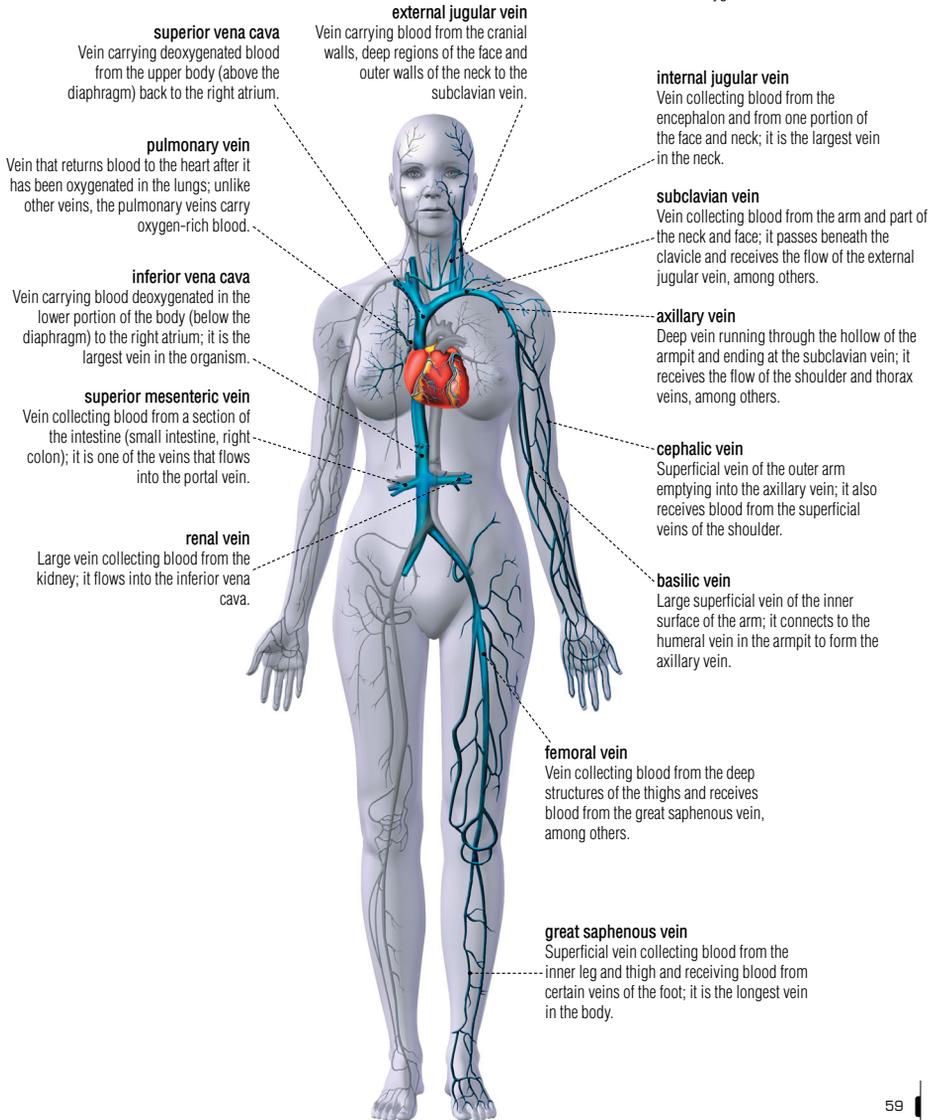
### arch of foot artery

Continuation of the dorsalis pedis artery; it divides into the arteries of the metatarsus.



**principal veins**

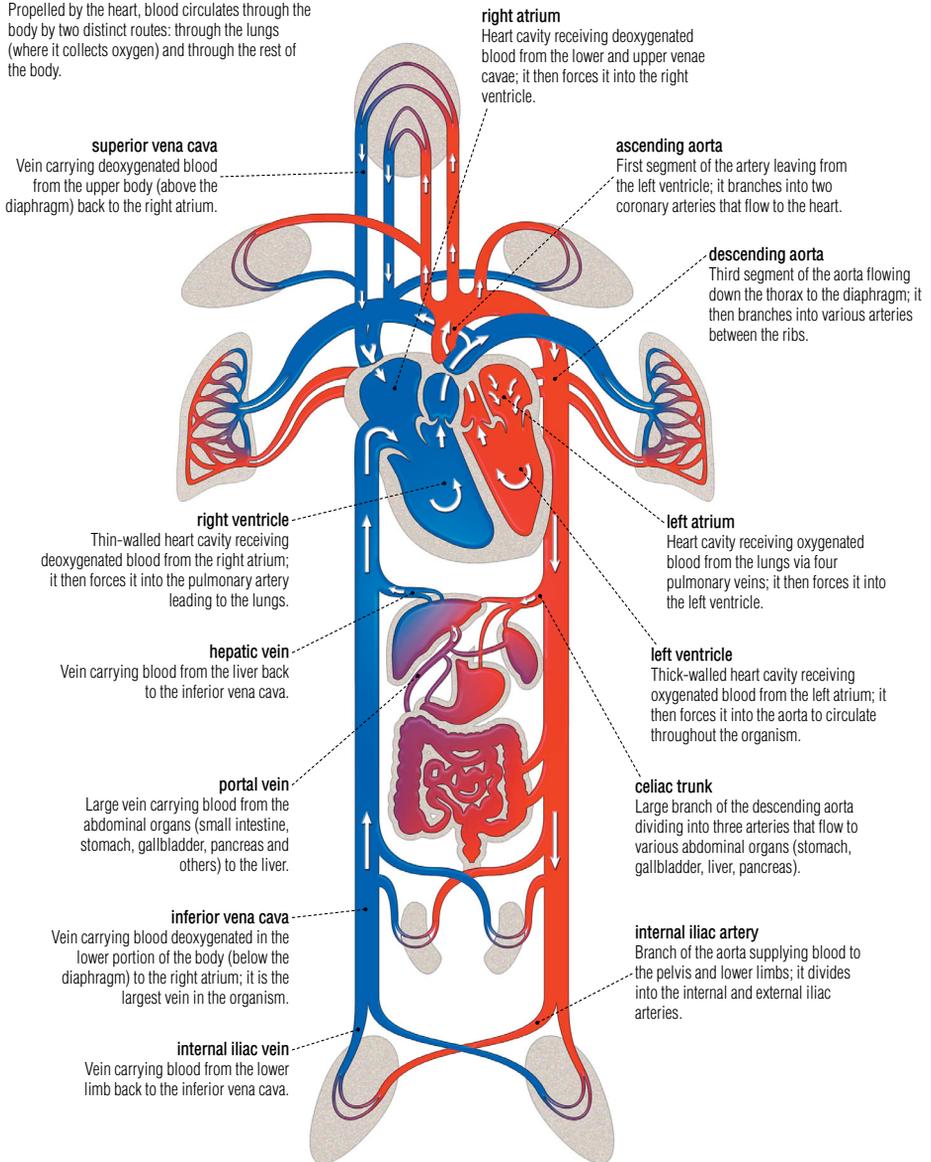
The veins (except for the pulmonary veins) carry deoxygenated blood toward the heart.



## blood circulation

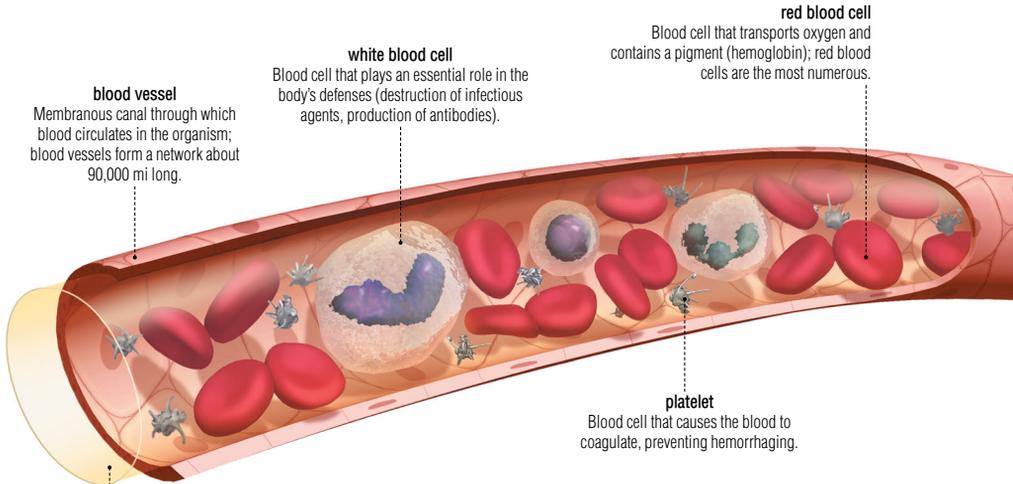
**schema of circulation**

Propelled by the heart, blood circulates through the body by two distinct routes: through the lungs (where it collects oxygen) and through the rest of the body.



**composition of the blood**

Blood is made up of an aqueous liquid (plasma) in which solids (blood cells, platelets) are suspended. It accounts for 7% to 8% of the body's weight.

**blood vessel**

Membranous canal through which blood circulates in the organism; blood vessels form a network about 90,000 mi long.

**white blood cell**

Blood cell that plays an essential role in the body's defenses (destruction of infectious agents, production of antibodies).

**red blood cell**

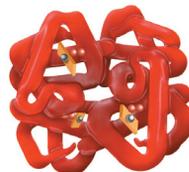
Blood cell that transports oxygen and contains a pigment (hemoglobin); red blood cells are the most numerous.

**platelet**

Blood cell that causes the blood to coagulate, preventing hemorrhaging.

**plasma**

Liquid part of blood consisting especially of water, mineral salts and proteins; it allows elements such as nutrients and waste to circulate in the blood.

**hemoglobin**

This molecule, contained in red blood cells, is involved in gas exchanges by transporting oxygen and carbon dioxide in the blood.

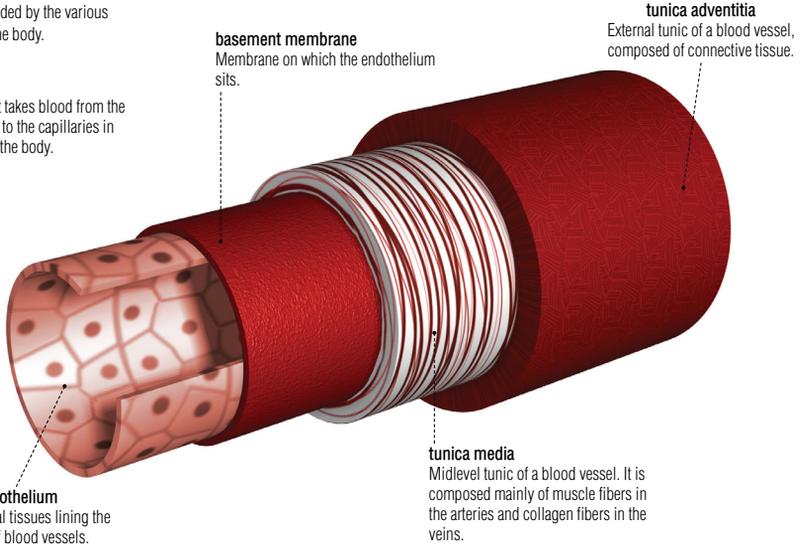
## blood circulation

**blood vessels**

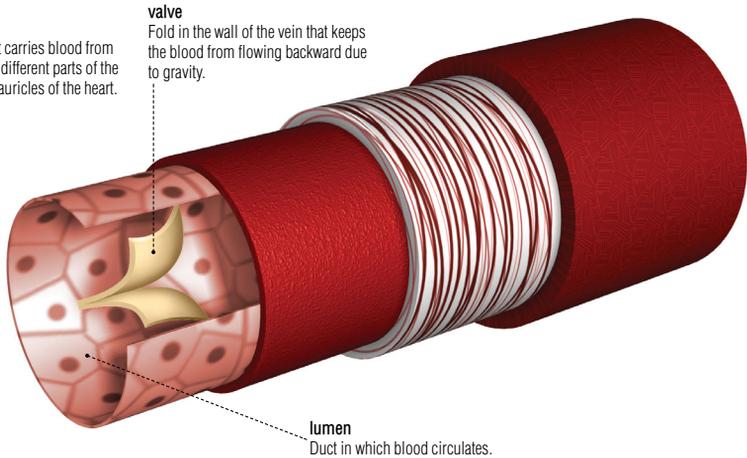
Ducts through which blood circulates, also carrying the nutritive elements and minerals needed by the various components of the body.

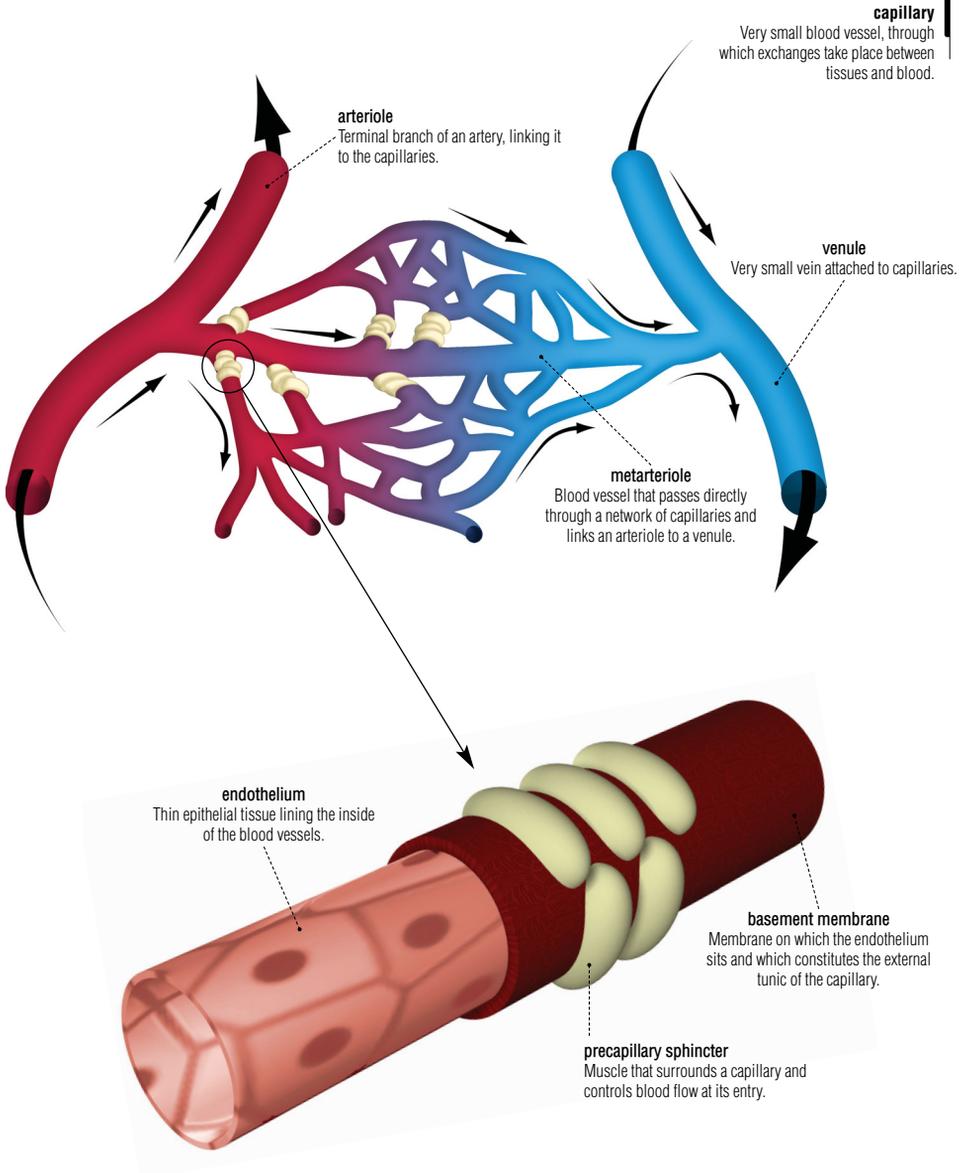
**artery**

Blood vessel that takes blood from the heart's ventricles to the capillaries in different parts of the body.

**vein**

Blood vessel that carries blood from the capillaries in different parts of the body toward the auricles of the heart.





## blood circulation

**heart**

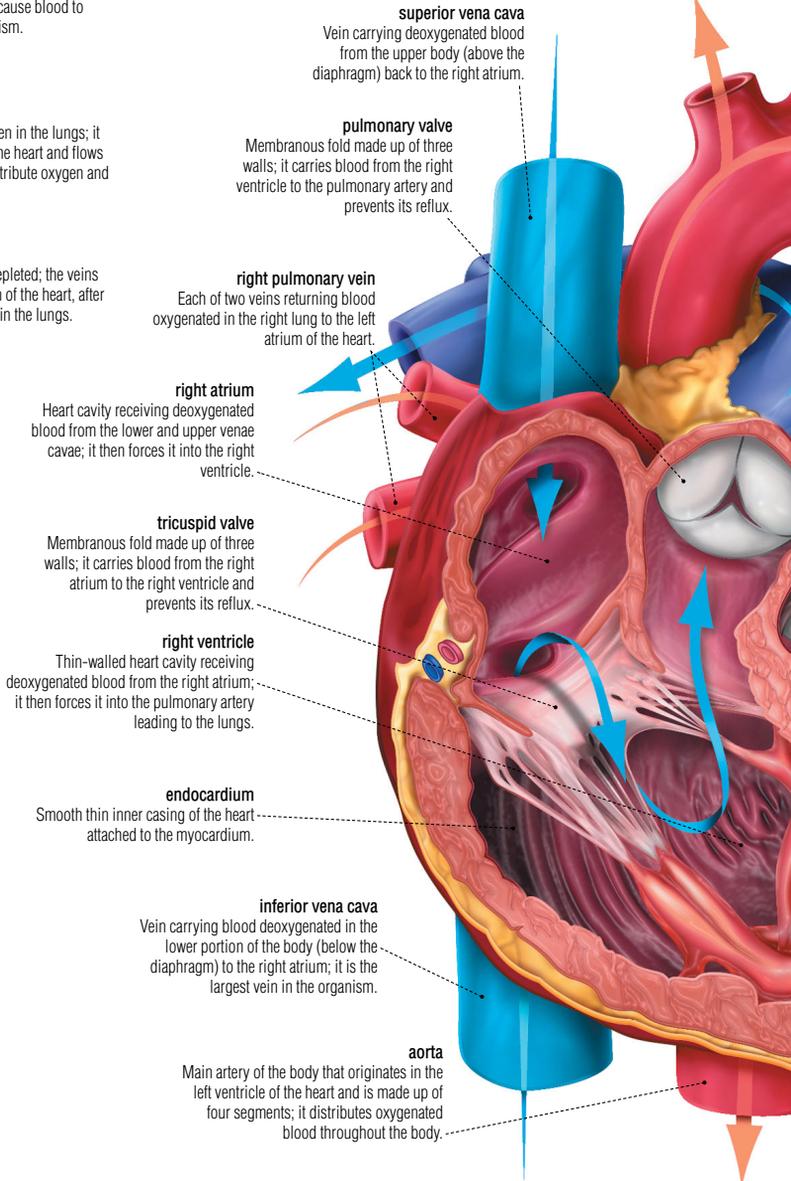
Muscular organ divided into four chambers; its regular rhythmic contractions cause blood to circulate throughout the organism.

**oxygenated blood**

Blood enriched with oxygen in the lungs; it leaves the left section of the heart and flows through the arteries to distribute oxygen and nutrients to the organism.

**deoxygenated blood**

Blood whose oxygen is depleted; the veins carry it to the right portion of the heart, after which it is re-oxygenated in the lungs.

**superior vena cava**

Vein carrying deoxygenated blood from the upper body (above the diaphragm) back to the right atrium.

**pulmonary valve**

Membranous fold made up of three walls; it carries blood from the right ventricle to the pulmonary artery and prevents its reflux.

**right pulmonary vein**

Each of two veins returning blood oxygenated in the right lung to the left atrium of the heart.

**right atrium**

Heart cavity receiving deoxygenated blood from the lower and upper venae cavae; it then forces it into the right ventricle.

**tricuspid valve**

Membranous fold made up of three walls; it carries blood from the right atrium to the right ventricle and prevents its reflux.

**right ventricle**

Thin-walled heart cavity receiving deoxygenated blood from the right atrium; it then forces it into the pulmonary artery leading to the lungs.

**endocardium**

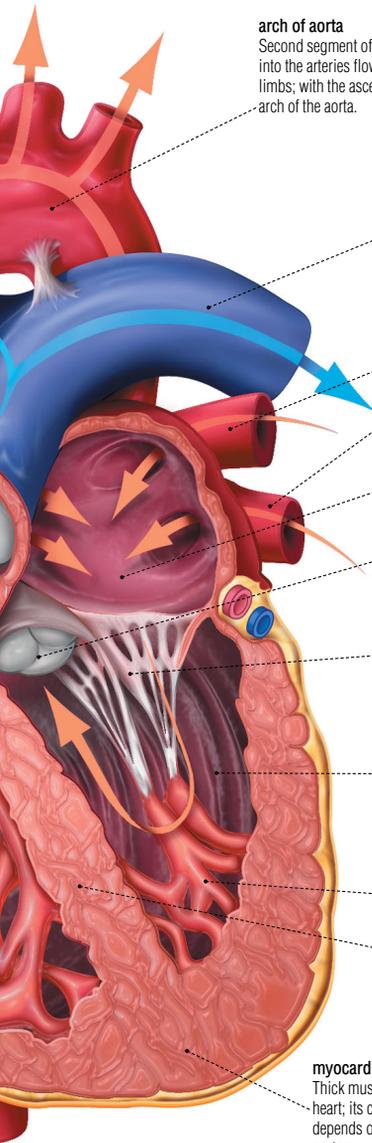
Smooth thin inner casing of the heart attached to the myocardium.

**inferior vena cava**

Vein carrying blood deoxygenated in the lower portion of the body (below the diaphragm) to the right atrium; it is the largest vein in the organism.

**aorta**

Main artery of the body that originates in the left ventricle of the heart and is made up of four segments; it distributes oxygenated blood throughout the body.

**arch of aorta**

Second segment of the aorta, which branches into the arteries flowing to the head and upper limbs; with the ascending aorta, it forms the arch of the aorta.

**pulmonary trunk**

Artery carrying blood that is poor in oxygen and rich in carbon dioxide to the lungs; this is the only artery that transports oxygen-poor blood.

**left pulmonary vein**

Each of two veins returning blood, oxygenated in the left lung, to the left atrium of the heart.

**left atrium**

Heart cavity receiving oxygenated blood from the lungs via four pulmonary veins; it then forces it into the left ventricle.

**aortic valve**

Membranous fold made up of three walls; it carries blood from the left ventricle to the aorta and prevents its reflux.

**mitral valve**

Membranous fold made up of two walls; it carries blood from the left atrium to the left ventricle and prevents its reflux.

**left ventricle**

Thick-walled heart cavity receiving oxygenated blood from the left atrium; it then forces it into the aorta to circulate throughout the organism.

**papillary muscle**

Internal ventricular muscle restraining the mitral or tricuspid valve and preventing it from being pushed back into the atrium during contraction of the ventricle.

**interventricular septum**

Mostly muscular partition separating the right and left ventricles of the heart.

**myocardium**

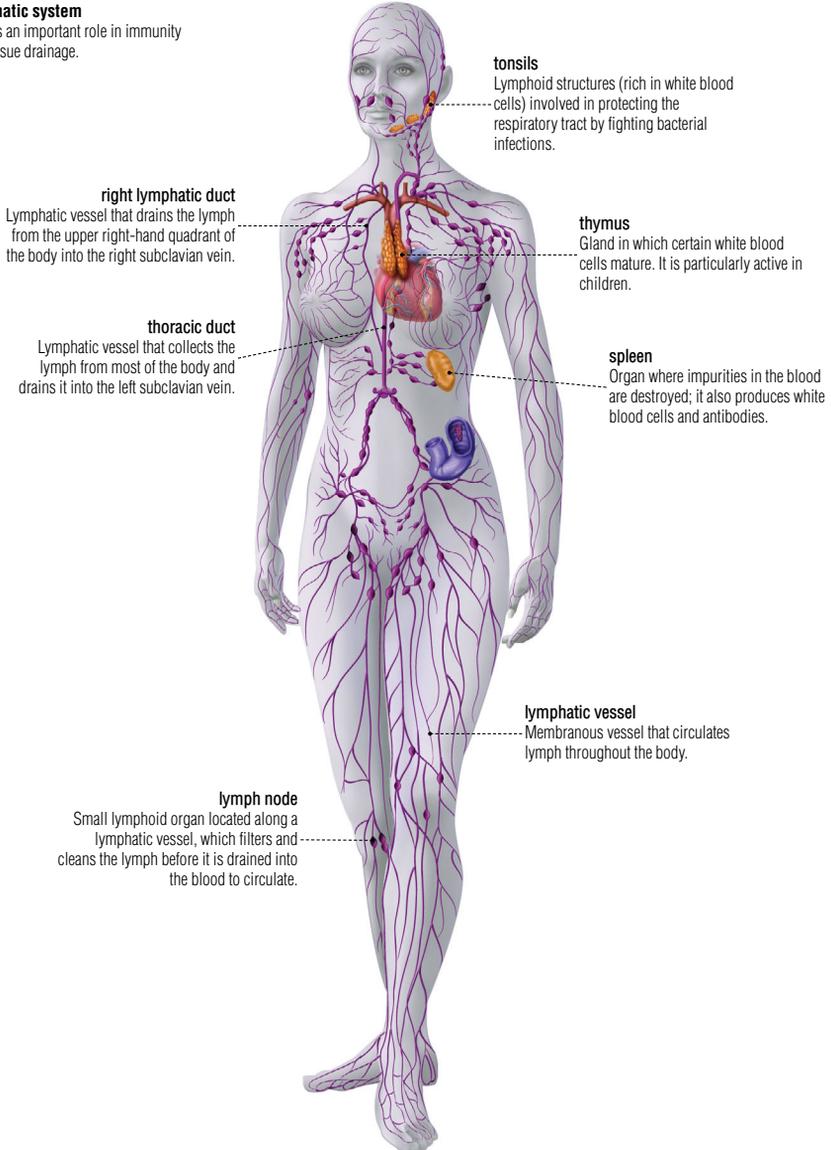
Thick muscular casing around the heart; its contraction is involuntary and depends on the autonomous nervous system.

# immune system

It defends the body against external stresses.

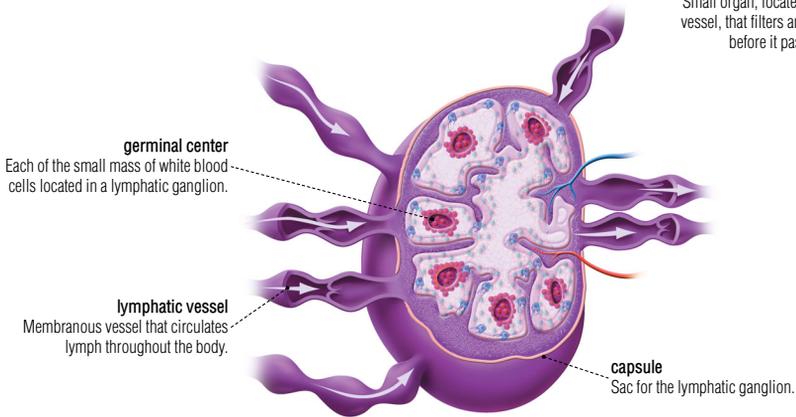
## lymphatic system

It plays an important role in immunity and tissue drainage.

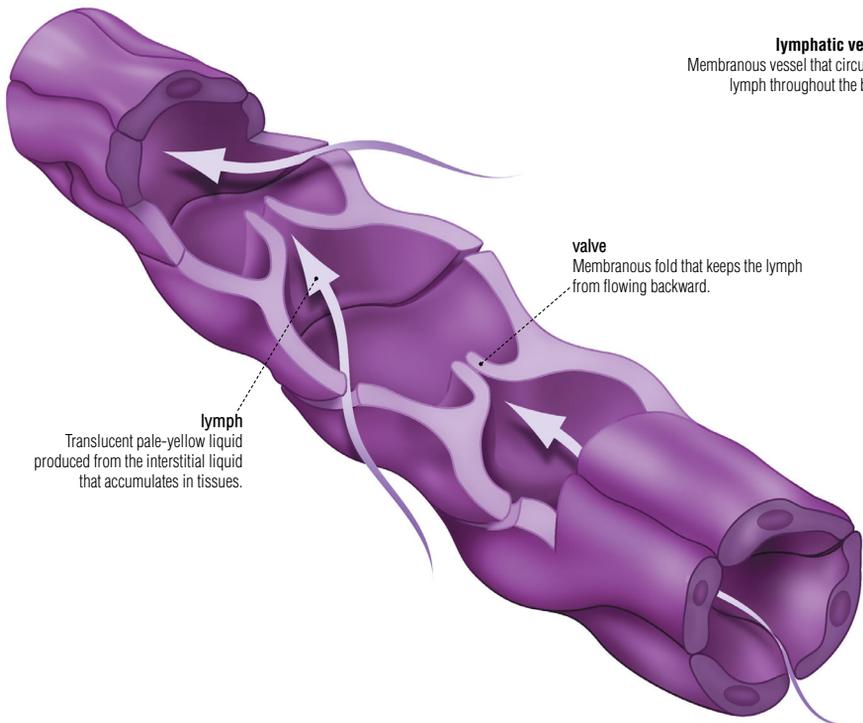


**lymph node**

Small organ, located along a lymphatic vessel, that filters and cleans the lymph before it passes into the blood-circulation system.

**lymphatic vessel**

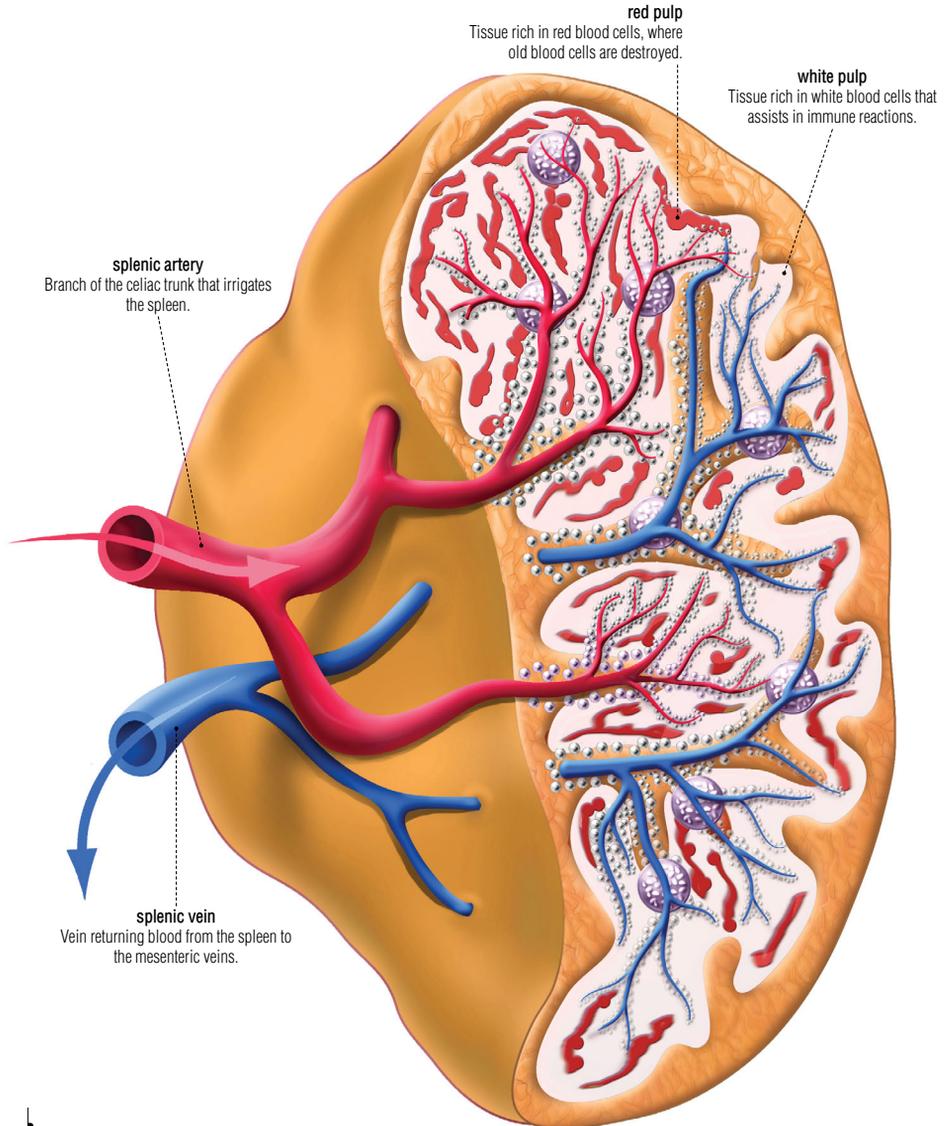
Membranous vessel that circulates lymph throughout the body.



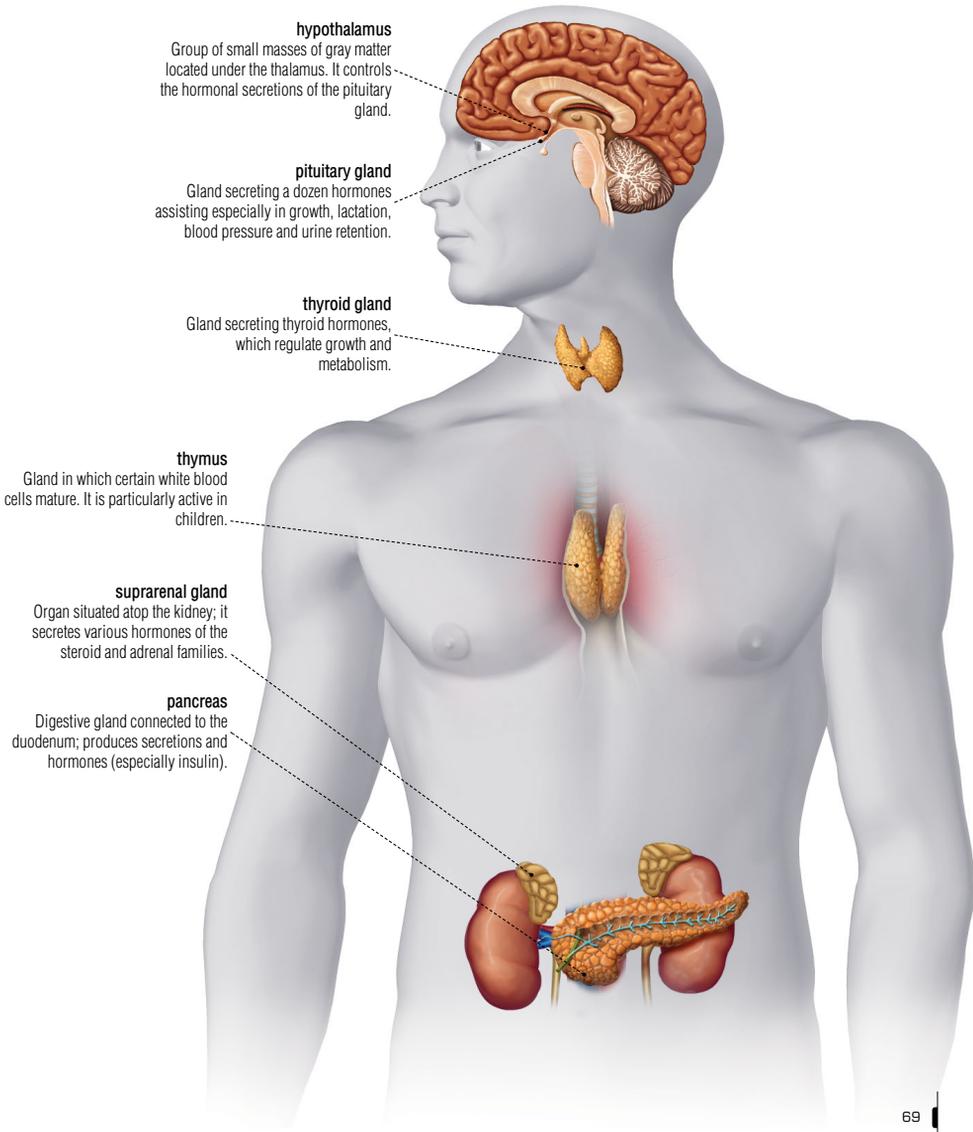
## immune system

**spleen**

Organ of the circulatory system where impurities in the blood are destroyed.



It is composed of a group of glands and cells that regulate certain body functions by releasing chemical substances, hormones, into the blood.



endocrine system

**thyroid gland**

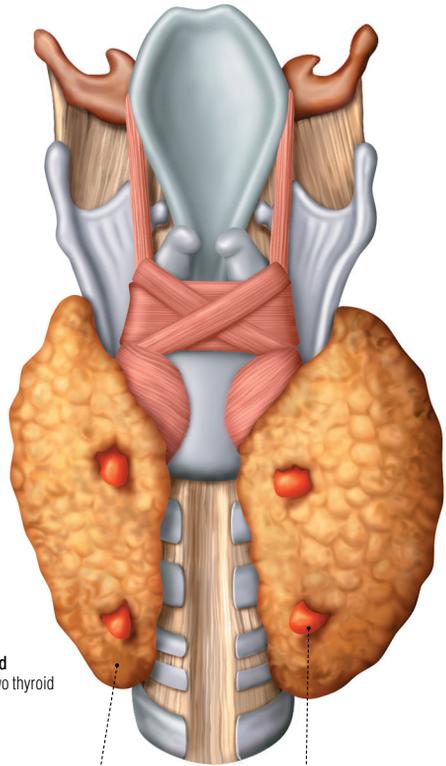
Gland secreting thyroid hormones, which regulate growth and metabolism.

**anterior view**

**larynx**

Muscular cartilaginous duct at the upper terminal part of the trachea; it contains the vocal cords and plays a role in speech and respiration.

**posterior view**



**trachea**

Muscular cartilaginous tract that is a continuation of the larynx; it allows air to pass.

**isthmus of thyroid gland**

Narrow band linking the two thyroid lobes.

**lobe of thyroid gland**

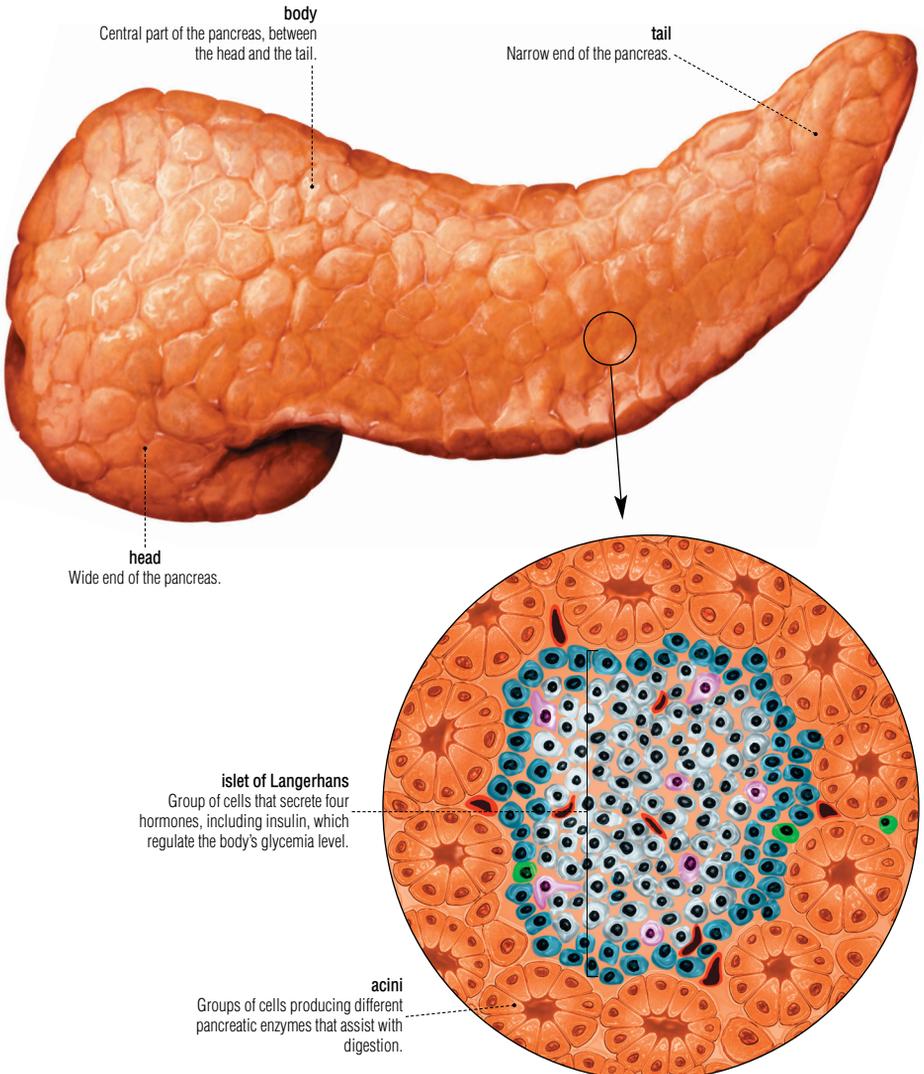
Each of the two main parts of the thyroid gland, located on either side of the larynx.

**parathyroid gland**

Each of two small glands on the posterior face of the thyroid gland. They secrete a hormone (parathormone) that affects calcium metabolism.

**pancreas**

Digestive gland connected to the duodenum; produces secretions and hormones (especially insulin).



**nucleus**  
Group of neurons that secrete two hormones involved in the secretion of urine and uterine contractions during childbirth.

**hypothalamus**  
Group of small masses of gray matter located under the thalamus. It controls the hormonal secretions of the pituitary gland.

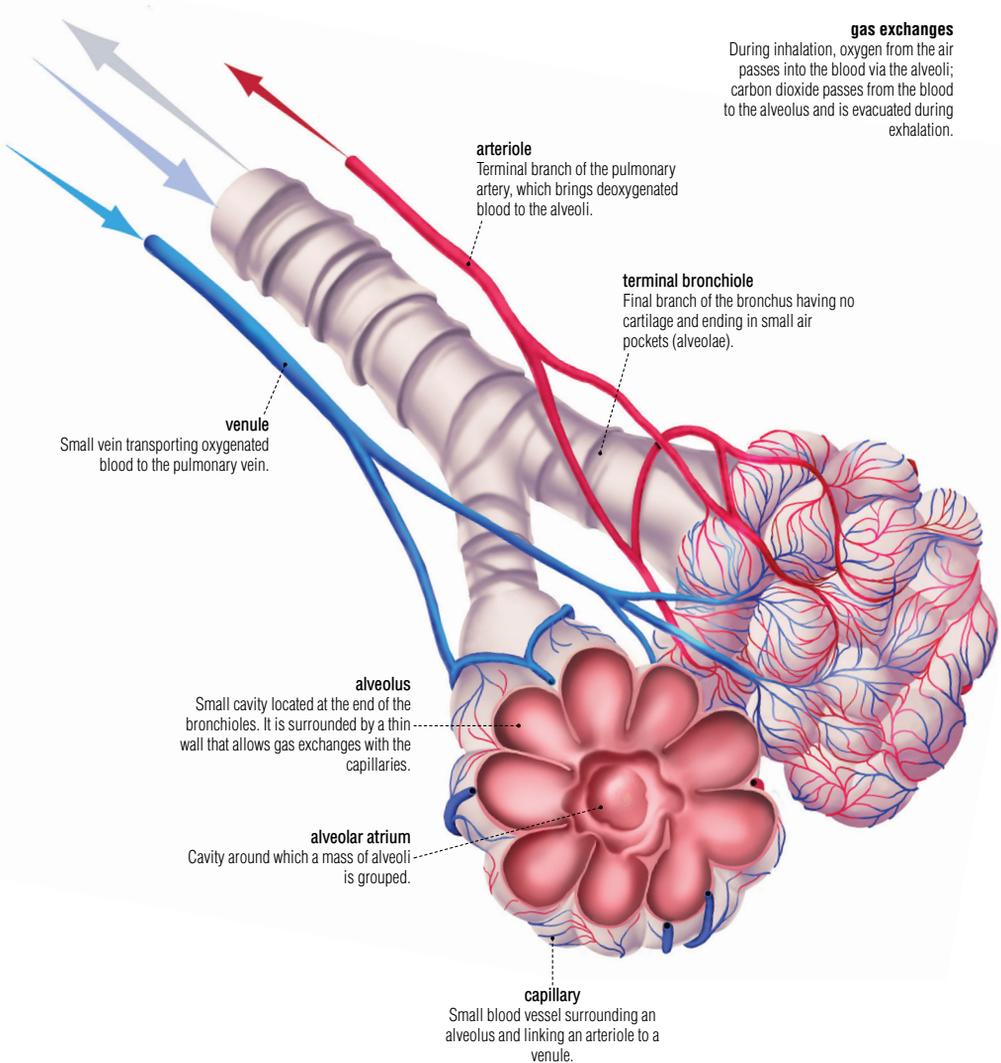
**neural stalk**  
Duct linking the hypothalamus to the pituitary gland.

**pituitary gland**  
Gland secreting a dozen hormones assisting especially in growth, lactation, blood pressure and urine retention.

**neurohypophysis**  
Posterior part of the pituitary gland, which stores the hormones secreted by the neurons of the hypothalamus and releases the hormones when necessary.

**adenohypophysis**  
Anterior part of the pituitary gland, which secretes hormones that regulate the activity of other endocrine glands.

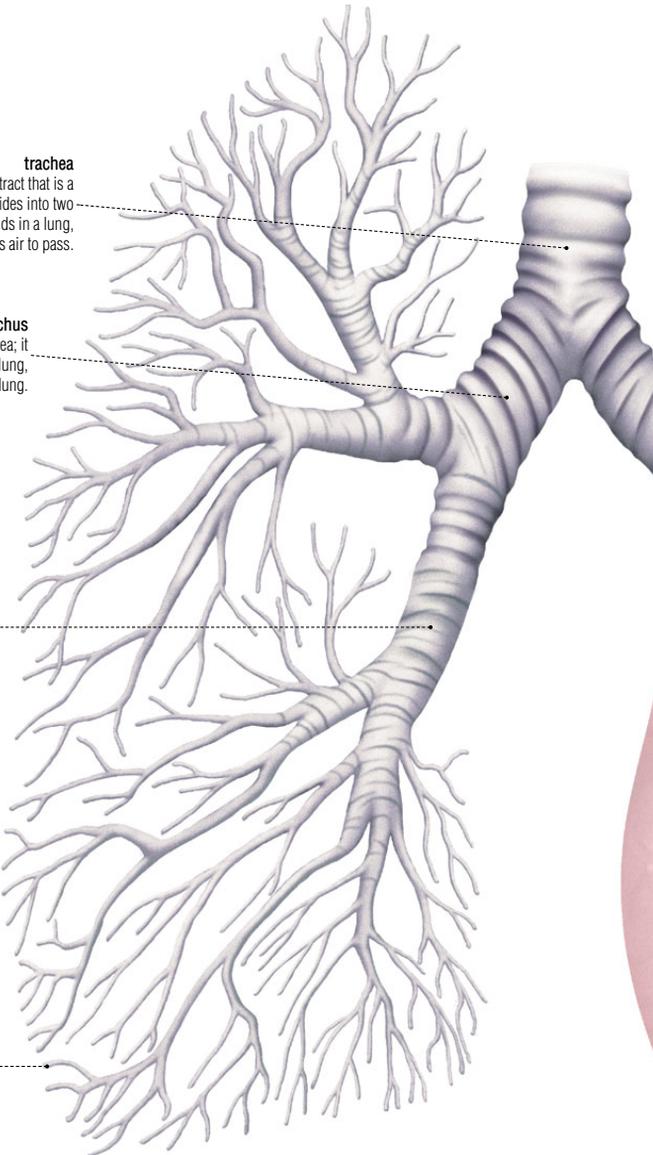
It causes gaseous exchanges to take place in the lungs by ensuring that oxygen is carried to the blood through inspiration, and carbon dioxide is eliminated from the blood through expiration.

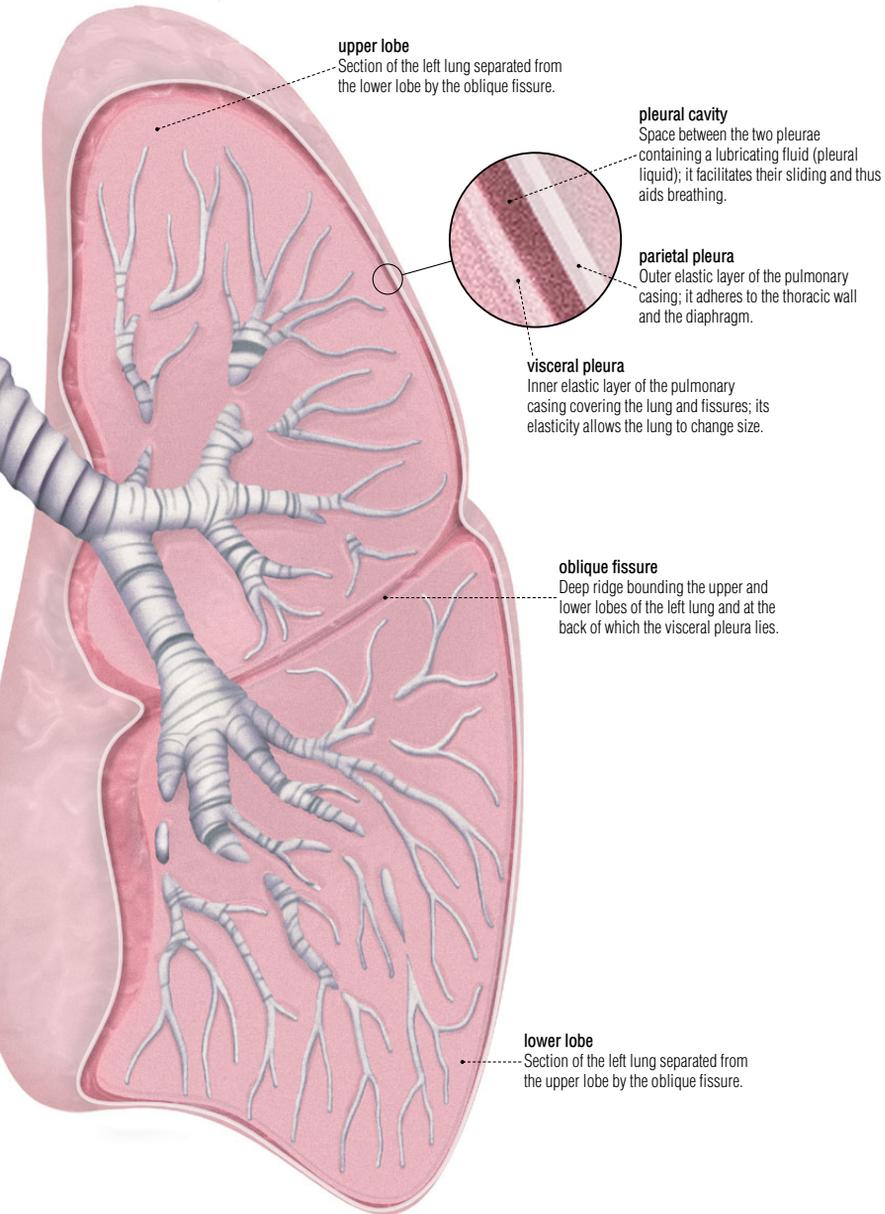


## respiratory system

**lungs**

Respiratory organs formed of extensible tissue, in which air from the nasal and oral cavities is carried, ensuring oxygenation of the blood.

- 
- trachea**  
Muscular cartilaginous tract that is a continuation of the larynx; it divides into two main bronchi, each of which ends in a lung, and allows air to pass.
- main bronchus**  
Channel leading from the trachea; it allows air to enter and exit the lung, and branches out inside the lung.
- lobe bronchus**  
Branch of the main bronchus ending in a pulmonary lobe and dividing into smaller and smaller bronchi.
- terminal bronchiole**  
Final branch of the bronchus having no cartilage and ending in small air pockets (alveolae) where gases are exchanged with the blood.



**main respiratory organs**

**nasal cavity**  
Place where air inhaled through the nostrils is filtered and humidified; it also plays an olfactory role.

**oral cavity**  
Secondary entry point of the respiratory system (physical effort, partial obstruction of the nose); it also helps the ingestion of food.

**epiglottis**  
Movable cartilaginous plate ensuring that the larynx closes during ingestion of food so that food cannot enter the respiratory tract.

**larynx**  
Muscular cartilaginous duct at the upper terminal part of the trachea; it contains the vocal cords and plays a role in speech and respiration.

**vocal cord**  
Muscular fold aiding speech; the vocal cords close and vibrate when air is expelled from the lungs, thereby producing sound.

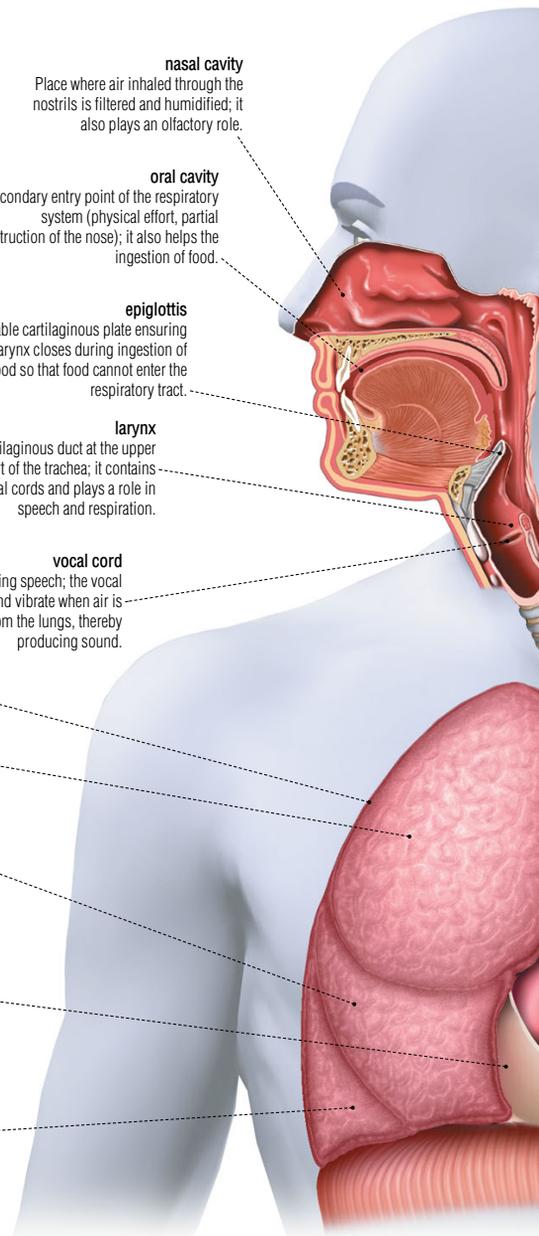
**right lung**  
Respiratory organ divided into three lobes in which blood from the pulmonary artery is cleansed of carbon dioxide and enriched with oxygen.

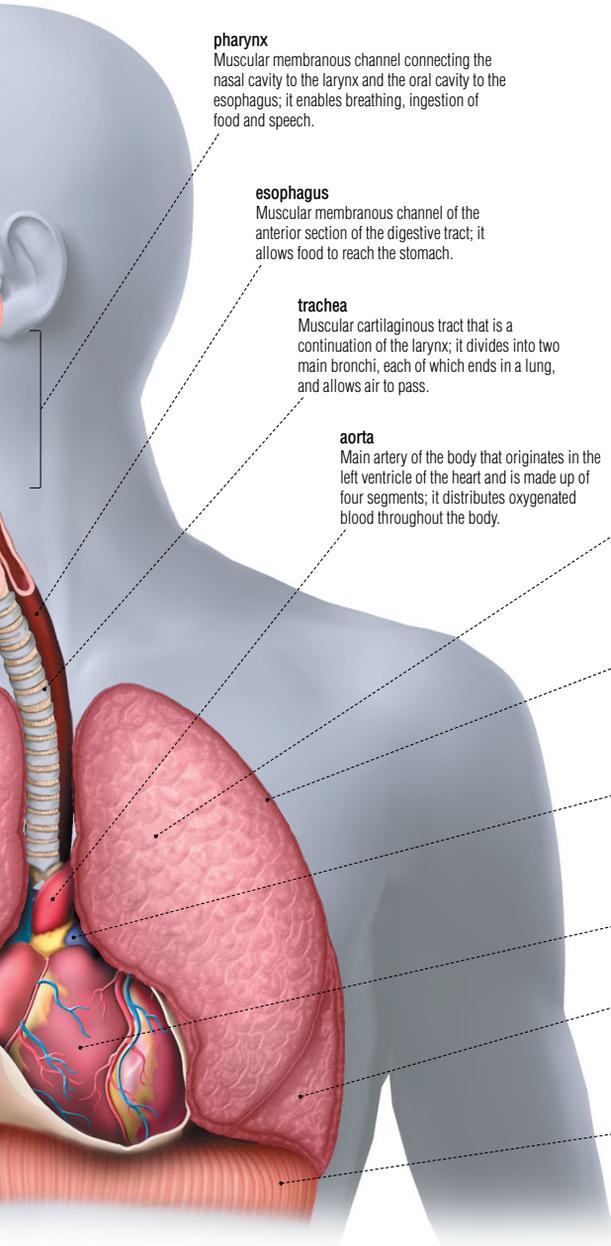
**upper lobe**  
Section of the right lung separated from the middle lobe by a horizontal fissure and from the lower lobe by an oblique fissure.

**middle lobe**  
Section of the right lung separated from the upper lobe by a horizontal fissure and from the lower lobe by an oblique fissure.

**pericardium**  
Exterior casing of the heart formed of an inner layer adhering to the myocardium and a thick fibrous outer layer.

**lower lobe**  
Section of the right lung separated from the middle and upper lobes by an oblique fissure.



**pharynx**

Muscular membranous channel connecting the nasal cavity to the larynx and the oral cavity to the esophagus; it enables breathing, ingestion of food and speech.

**esophagus**

Muscular membranous channel of the anterior section of the digestive tract; it allows food to reach the stomach.

**trachea**

Muscular cartilaginous tract that is a continuation of the larynx; it divides into two main bronchi, each of which ends in a lung, and allows air to pass.

**aorta**

Main artery of the body that originates in the left ventricle of the heart and is made up of four segments; it distributes oxygenated blood throughout the body.

**upper lobe**

Section of the left lung separated from the lower lobe by the oblique fissure.

**left lung**

Respiratory organ divided into two lobes where blood from the pulmonary artery is cleansed of carbon dioxide and enriched with oxygen.

**pulmonary artery**

Artery carrying blood that is poor in oxygen and rich in carbon dioxide to the lungs; it is the only artery that transports oxygen-poor blood.

**heart**

Muscular organ divided into four chambers; its regular rhythmic contractions cause blood to circulate throughout the organism.

**lower lobe**

Section of the left lung separated from the upper lobe by the oblique fissure.

**diaphragm**

Main muscle of inspiration separating the thorax from the abdomen; its contraction increases the size of the thoracic cage and lungs, into which inhaled air is carried.

## respiratory system

**larynx**

Muscular cartilaginous duct at the upper terminal part of the trachea; it contains the vocal cords and plays a role in speech and respiration.

**epiglottis**

Movable cartilaginous plate ensuring that the larynx closes during ingestion of food so that food cannot enter the respiratory tract.

**hyoid bone**

Bone supporting the larynx, and the insertion point for various muscles of the tongue, pharynx, and larynx.

**thyrohyoid membrane**

Membrane linking thyroid cartilage to the hyoid bone.

**thyroid cartilage**

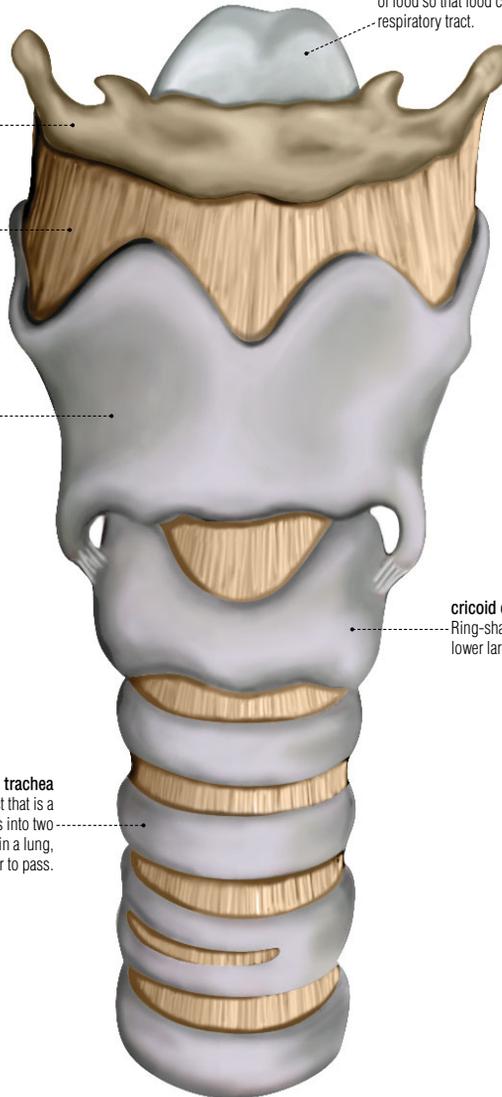
Structure formed of two lateral plates whose junction forms a very visible ridge in men (Adam's apple).

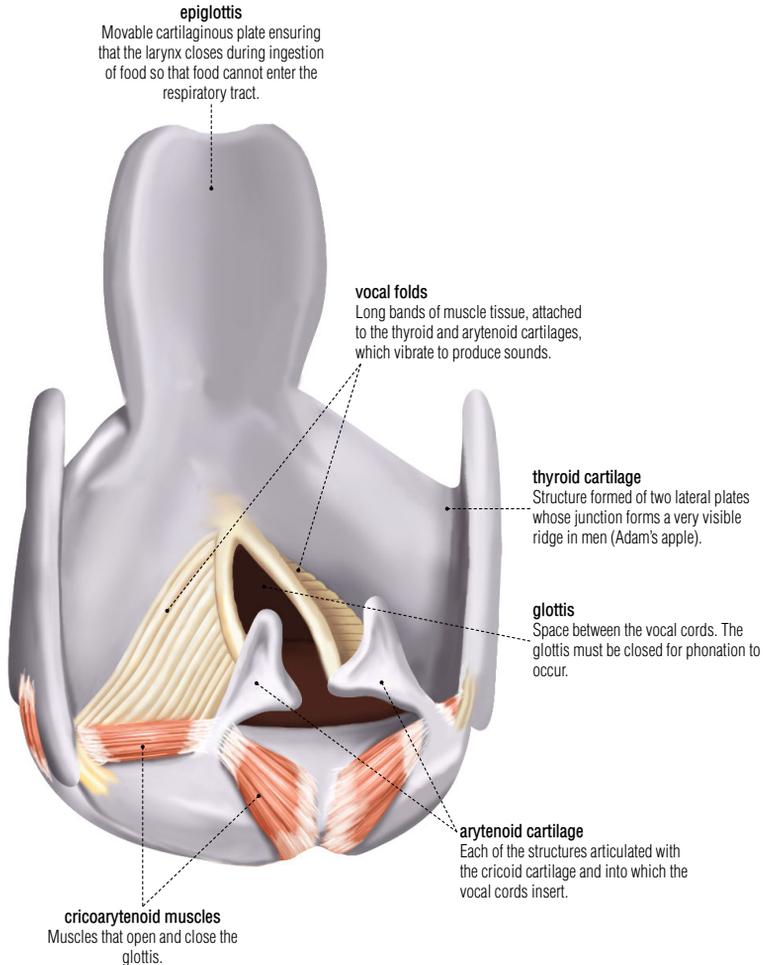
**cricoid cartilage**

Ring-shaped structure located in the lower larynx.

**trachea**

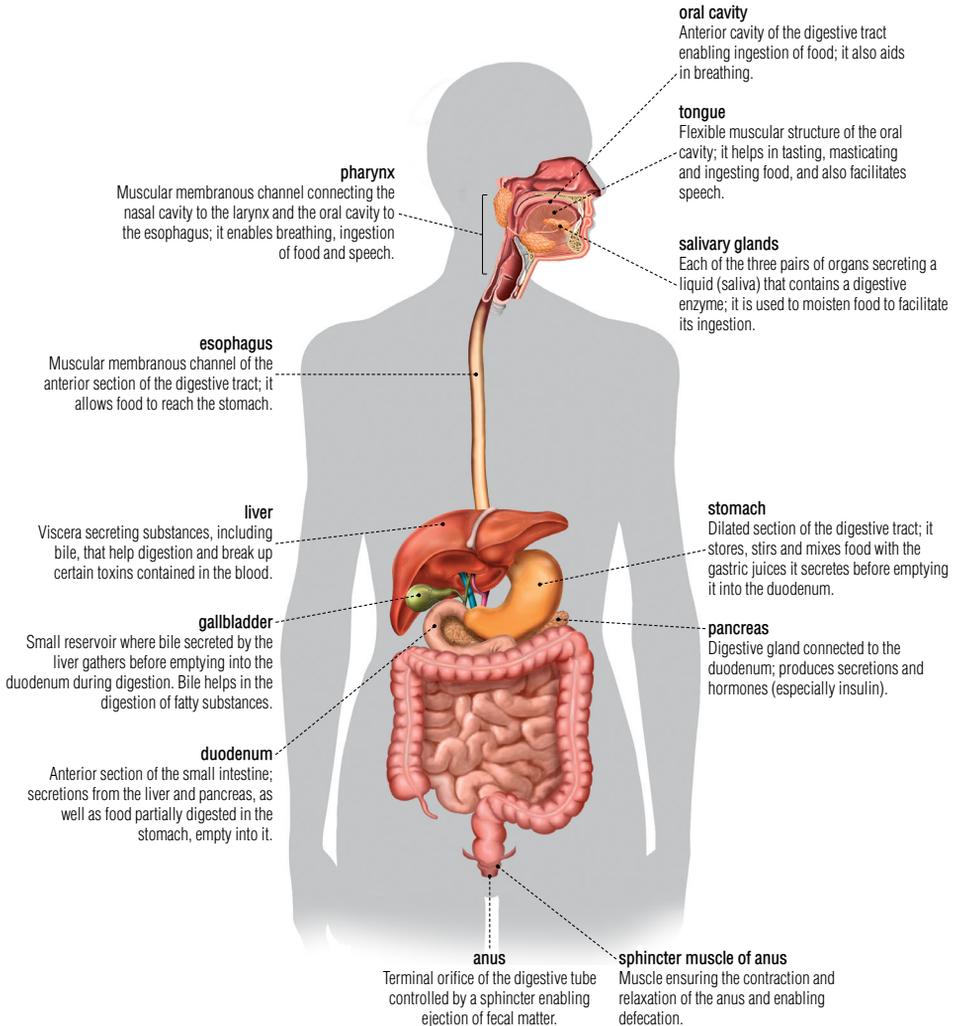
Muscular cartilaginous tract that is a continuation of the larynx; it divides into two main bronchi, each of which ends in a lung, and allows air to pass.

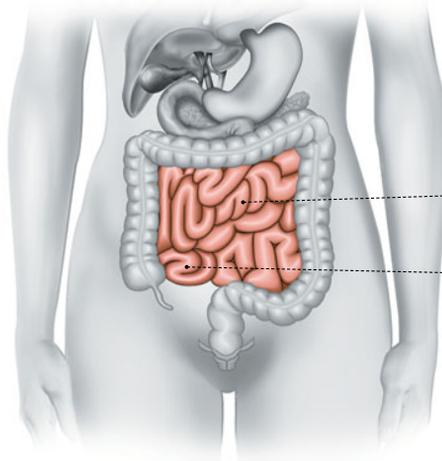




# digestive system

Formed of the mouth, digestive tract and appended glands, it converts ingested food so that it can be assimilated by the organism.





**small intestine**

Narrow section of the digestive tract, about 20 ft long, between the stomach and cecum, where a part of digestion and food absorption occurs.

**jejunum**

Middle section of the small intestine between the duodenum and the ileum; the majority of nutrients are absorbed here.

**ileum**

Terminal part of the small intestine between the jejunum and cecum.

**transverse colon**  
Second segment of the colon (middle section of the large intestine). The right colon (the ascending colon plus half the transverse colon) mainly enables absorption of water.

**descending colon**  
Third segment of the colon; it stores waste before it is eliminated.

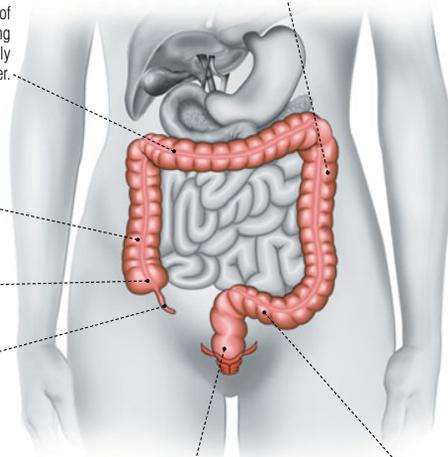
**ascending colon**  
First segment of the colon; it absorbs water from food residue before it is excreted.

**cecum**  
Anterior part of the large intestine; it receives food particles from the ileum.

**vermiform appendix**  
Tubular extension of the cecum; this appendage is occasionally the site of appendicitis, a severe inflammation.

**rectum**  
Terminal section of the large intestine preceding the anus.

**sigmoid colon**  
Fourth segment of the colon; it carries waste to the rectum.



**large intestine**

Last wide section of the digestive tract, about 5 ft long, where the final stage of digestion and elimination of waste occurs; it includes the colon and the rectum.

## digestive system

**stomach**

Dilated section of the digestive tract preceding the intestine; it receives food to be digested.

**esophagus**

Muscular membranous channel of the anterior section of the digestive tract; it allows food to reach the stomach.

**peritoneum**

Resistant membrane covering the internal walls and organs of the abdominal cavity and maintaining its shape.

**duodenum**

Anterior section of the small intestine; secretions from the liver and pancreas, as well as food partially digested in the stomach, empty into it.

**pylorus**

Orifice leading from the stomach that controls, with a sphincter, the passage of partially digested foods to the duodenum.

**muscles**

Layers of muscle covering the submucosa, the contraction of mixes foods in the stomach.

**mucous membrane**

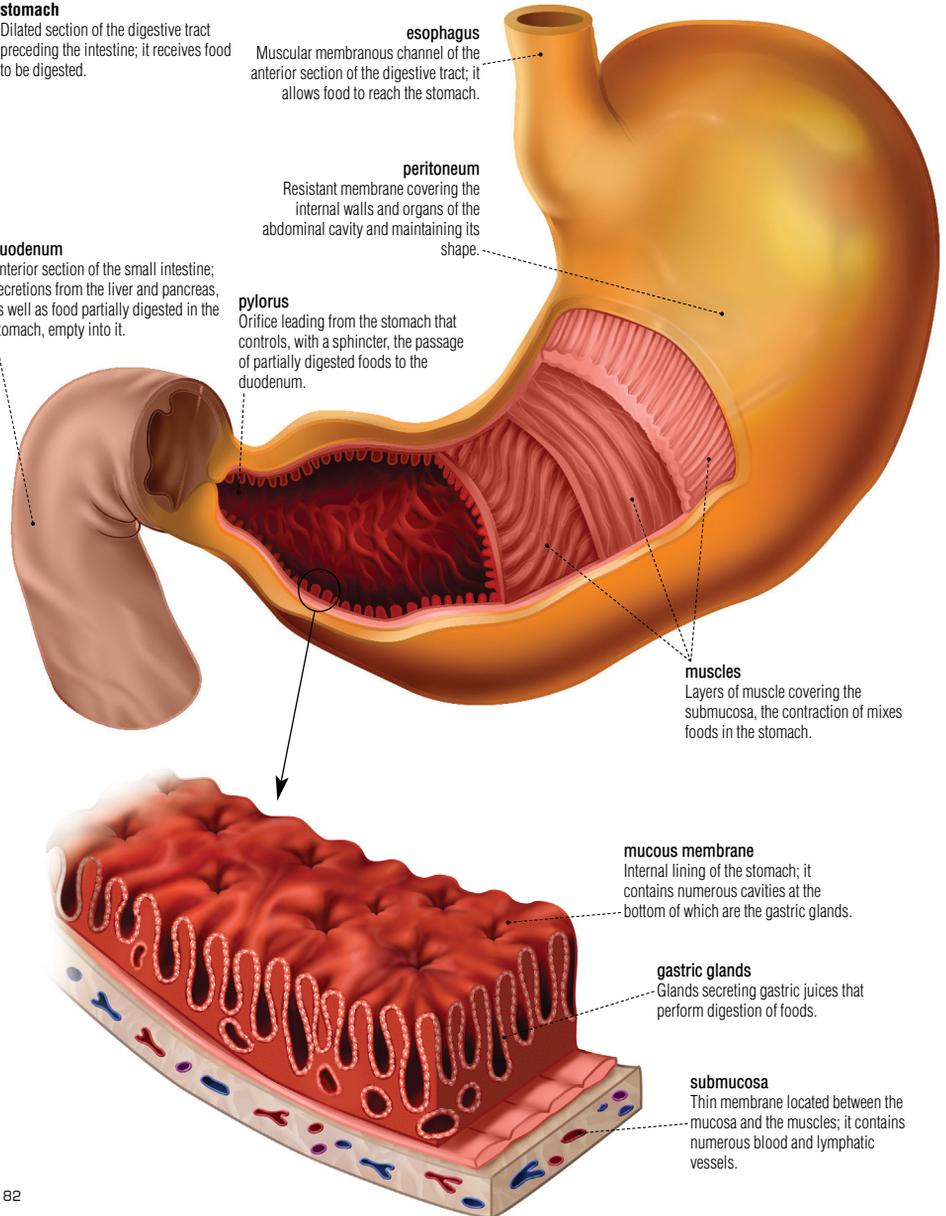
Internal lining of the stomach; it contains numerous cavities at the bottom of which are the gastric glands.

**gastric glands**

Glands secreting gastric juices that perform digestion of foods.

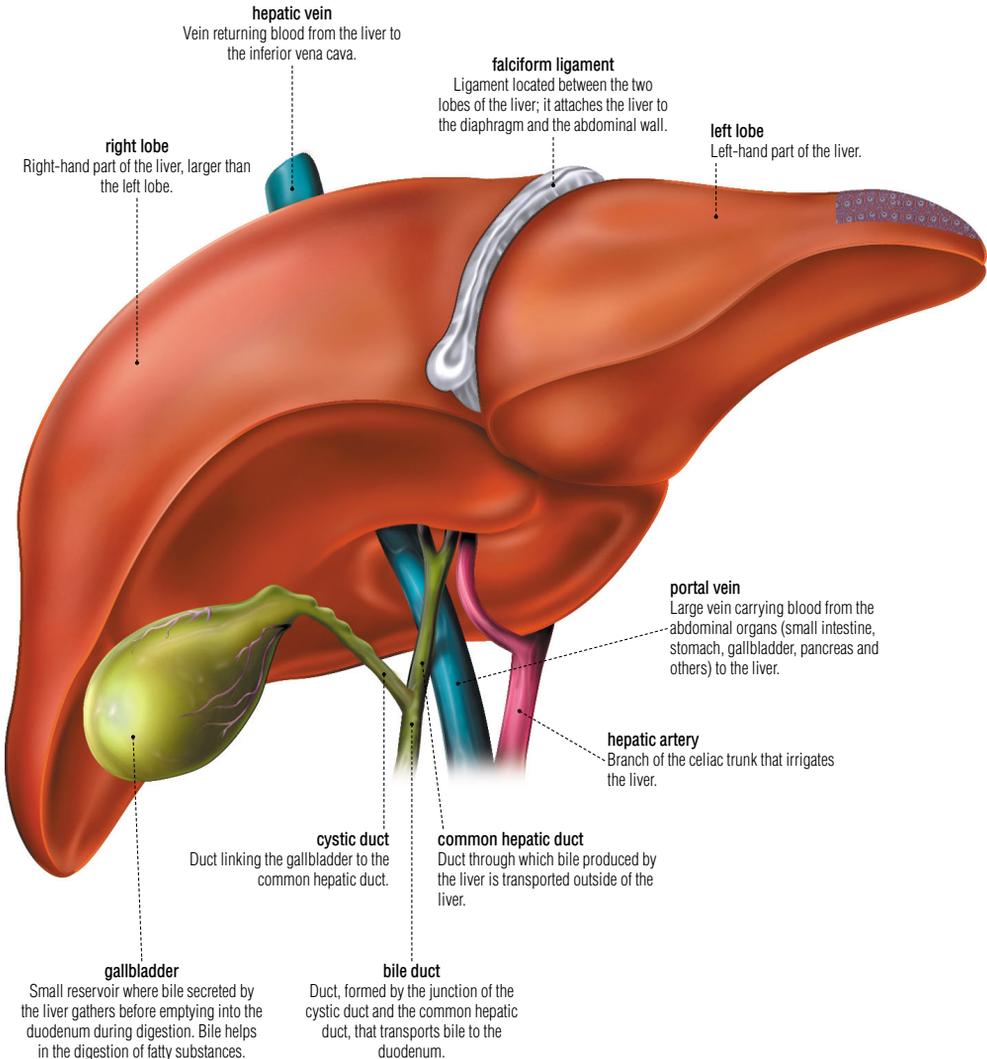
**submucosa**

Thin membrane located between the mucosa and the muscles; it contains numerous blood and lymphatic vessels.



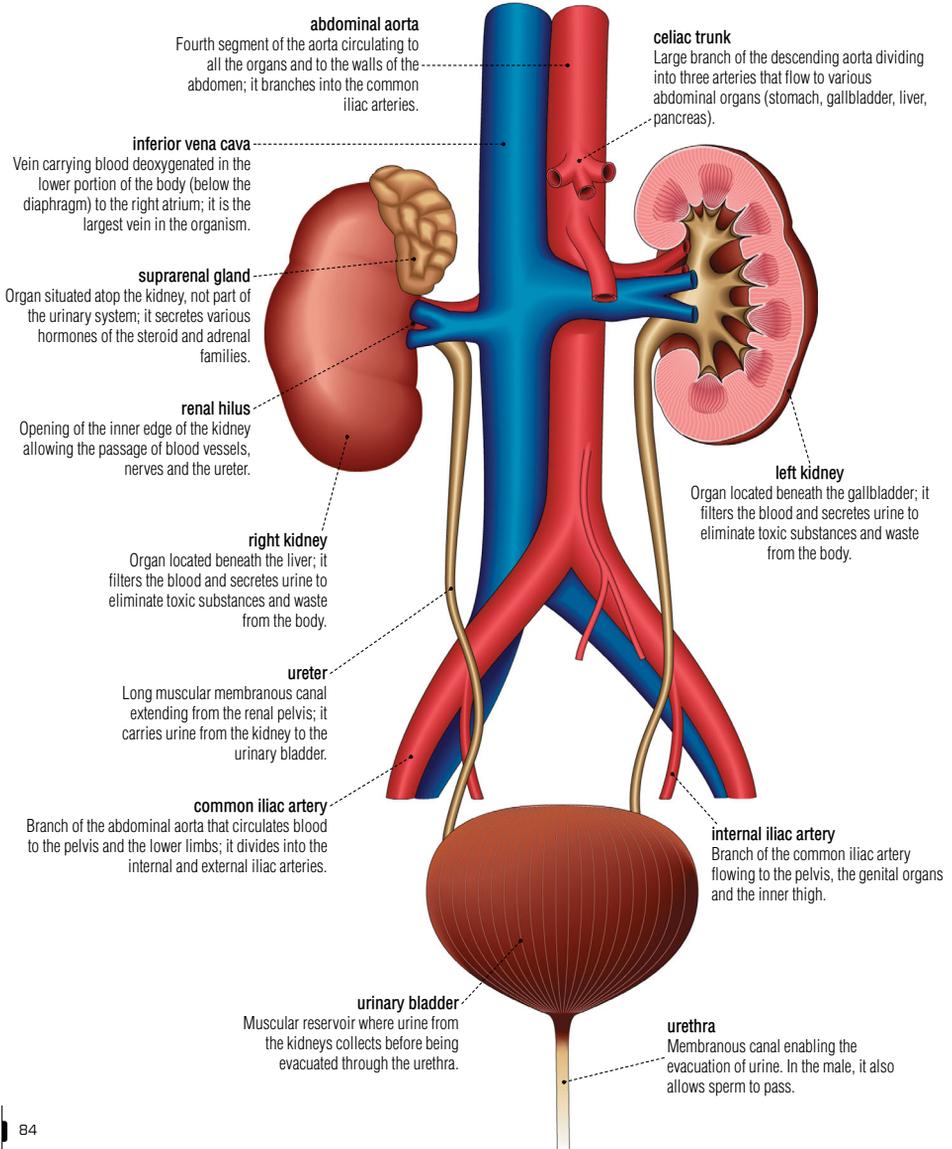
**liver**

Viscera that secretes bile, among other substances; bile helps digestion.



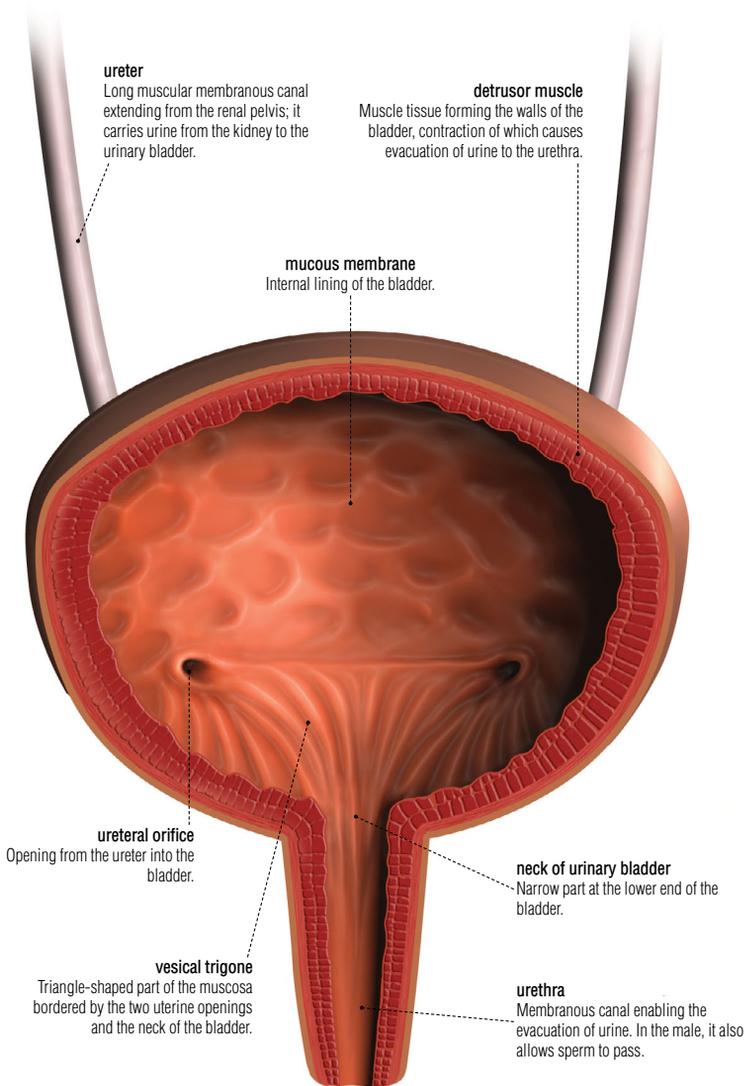
## urinary system

Eliminates the organism's waste through secretion and evacuation of urine; it also regulates the quantity of water and salt in the body.



**urinary bladder**

Muscular reservoir where urine from the kidneys collects before being evacuated through the urethra.



## urinary system

**kidney**

Organ secreting urine; it eliminates toxic substances from the body.

**cortex**  
Outer portion of the renal tissue inserted between the Malpighian pyramids; it is made up of small vesicles that filter the blood and produce urine.

**medulla**  
Inner part of the renal tissue made up of Malpighian pyramids, cone-shaped structures that connect the urine collection canals.

**renal artery**  
Branch of the abdominal aorta circulating blood to the kidney.

**renal vein**  
Large vein collecting blood from the kidney; it flows into the inferior vena cava.

**renal pelvis**  
Broad section of the excretory renal tract resulting from the juncture of the calyces; it extends into the ureter.

**major calyx**  
Cavity draining the kidney; it is formed by the meeting of several minor calyces and opens into the renal pelvis.

**ureter**  
Long muscular membranous canal extending from the renal pelvis; it carries urine from the kidney to the urinary bladder.

**capsule**

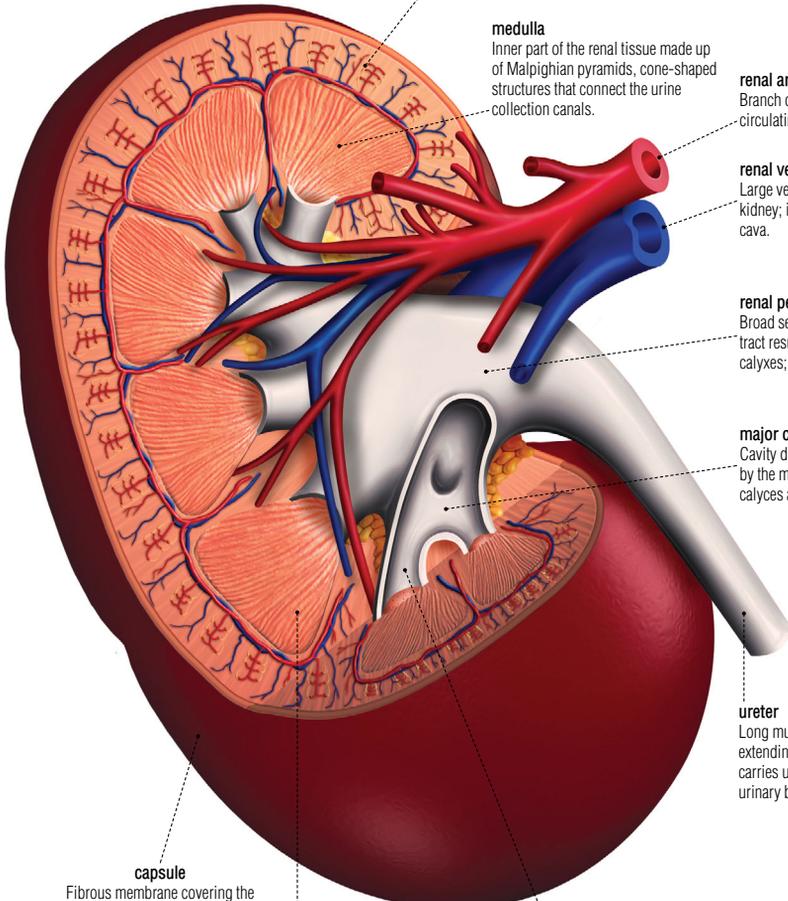
Fibrous membrane covering the kidney.

**renal pyramid**

Conical structure connecting the urine-collecting ducts.

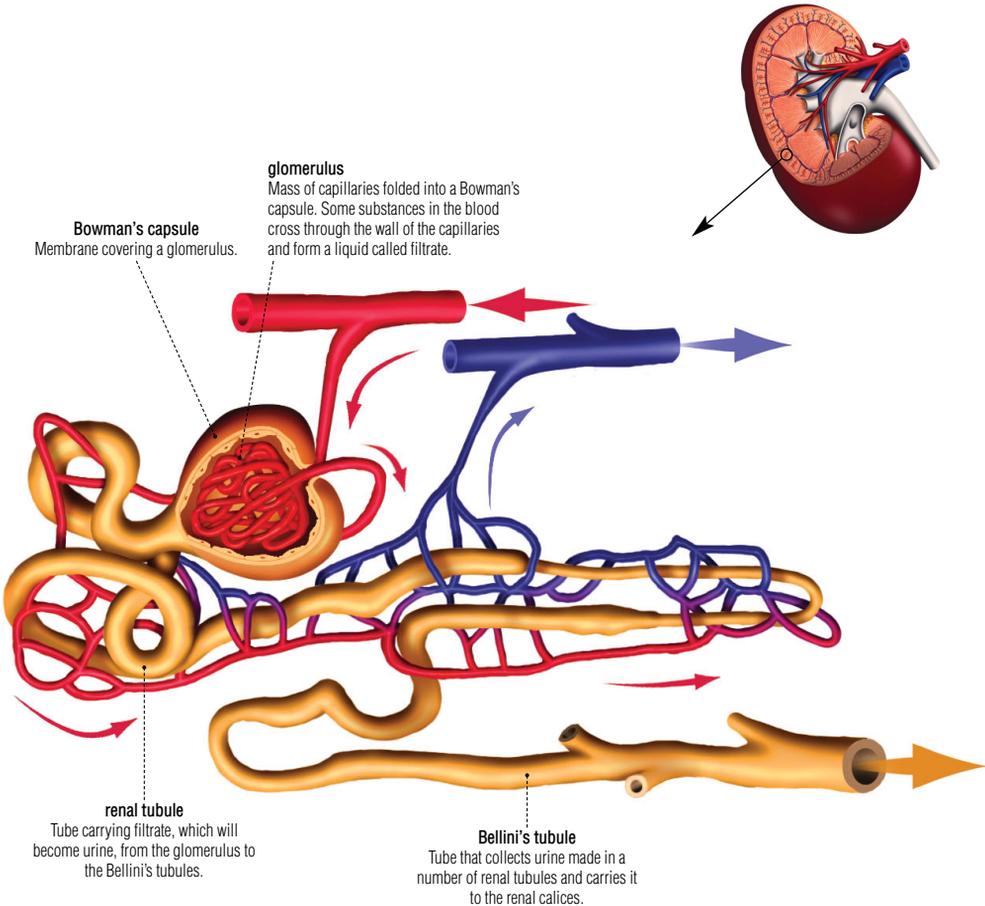
**minor calyx**

Small cavity draining the kidney, collecting urine from the papillae and opening into a major calyx.



**nephron**

Unit that filters blood and secretes urine. The kidney contains about 1 million nephrons.



# nervous system

It directs the movements of the organs and muscles, interprets sensory messages coming from the body and ensures psychic activity.

## peripheral nervous system

Part of the nervous system formed by all the motor or sensory nerves (43 pairs) connecting the central nervous system to the organism.

### brachial plexus

Network formed of the last four cervical nerves and the first dorsal nerve whose branches ensure motion and feeling in the upper limb.

### median nerve

Branch of the brachial plexus providing nerve sensation to various muscles in the lower part of the forearm and part of the hand, where it divides into five branches.

### ulnar nerve

Branch of the brachial plexus providing nerve sensation, with the median nerve, especially to the flexor muscles of the hand and toes.

### iliohypogastric nerve

Branch of the lumbar plexus ensuring nerve sensation in one section of the abdominal wall and in the genital organs.

### common peroneal nerve

Branch of the sciatic nerve ensuring nerve sensation especially in the muscles of the anterior and external parts of the leg.

### superficial peroneal nerve

Branch of the common peroneal nerve ensuring nerve sensation mainly in the lateral peroneal muscles of the outer leg and the back of the foot.

### lumbar plexus

Network formed of the first four lumbar nerves whose six branches ensure movement and sensation in the lower limb.

### obturator nerve

Branch of the lumbar plexus providing nerve sensation especially to the abductor muscles of the inner thigh.

### femoral nerve

Large branch of the lumbar plexus ensuring nerve sensation especially in the flexor muscles of the thigh and the extensor muscles of the leg.

### sacral plexus

Network formed of several nerves whose branches ensure movement and sensation in the buttock and part of the thigh.

### sciatic nerve

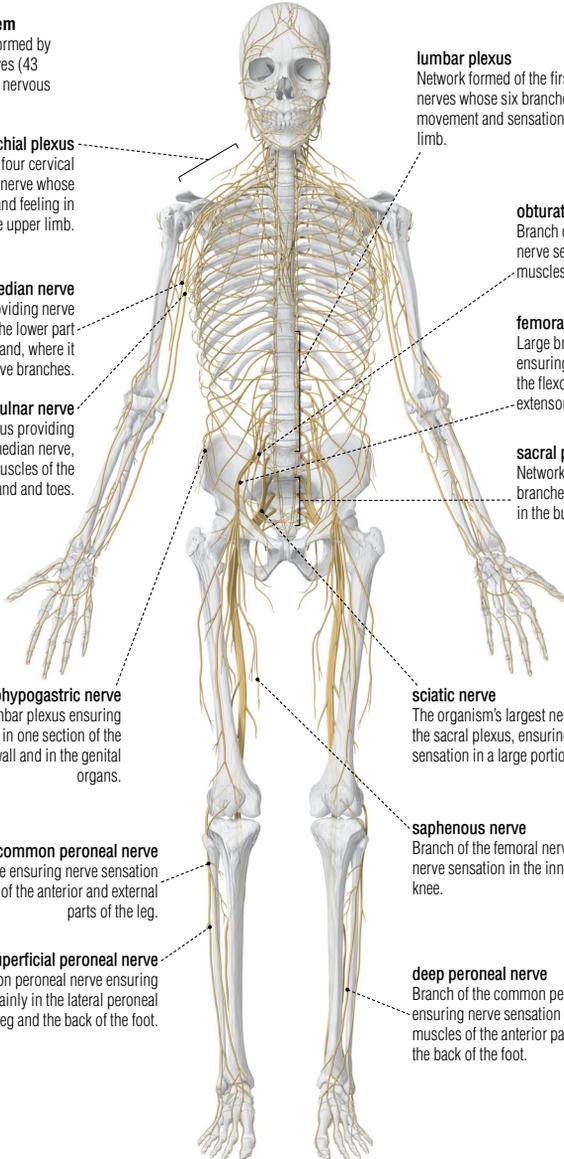
The organism's largest nerve, originating in the sacral plexus, ensuring nerve and motor sensation in a large portion of the lower limb.

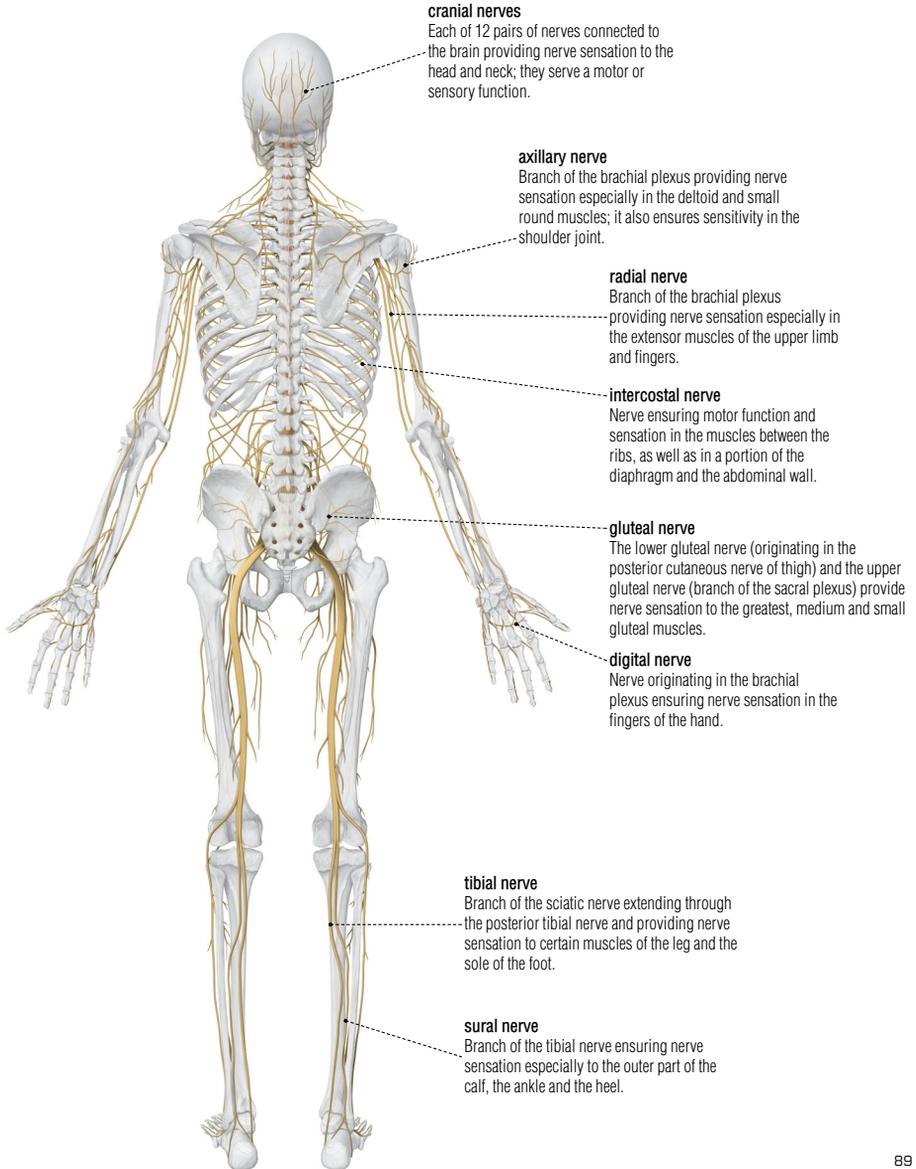
### saphenous nerve

Branch of the femoral nerve ensuring nerve sensation in the inner leg and knee.

### deep peroneal nerve

Branch of the common peroneal nerve ensuring nerve sensation mainly in the muscles of the anterior part of the leg and the back of the foot.





nervous system

**cranial nerves**

Each of 12 pairs of nerves connected to the brain providing nerve sensation to the head and neck; they serve a motor or sensory function.

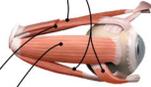
**olfactory nerve**  
Sensory nerve involved in smell.



**optic nerve**  
Sensory nerve responsible for vision, which transmits information from the eye to the brain.



**oculomotor nerve**  
Motor nerve responsible for movements of the eye in the orbit and of the upper eyelid, as well as opening of the pupil.



**trochlear nerve**  
Motor nerve involved in eye movements.

**abducens nerve**  
Motor nerve involved in lateral movements of the eye.



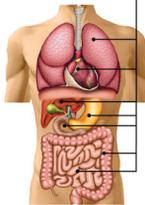
**vestibulocochlear nerve**  
Sensory nerve responsible for hearing and balance.

**glossopharyngeal nerve**  
Mixed nerve associated with swallowing, the gag reflex, taste, and sensations from the back of the tongue and the pharynx.



**hypoglossal nerve**  
Motor nerve that controls tongue movements to allow swallowing, chewing, and speaking.

**vagus nerve**  
Mixed nerve that plays an important role in the autonomous nervous system by innervating all of the viscera.



**trigeminal nerve**  
Mixed nerve that transmits sensations of the face to the brain and plays a role in mastication movements.



**facial nerve**  
Mixed nerve that controls movements of the face and is involved in the sense of taste.

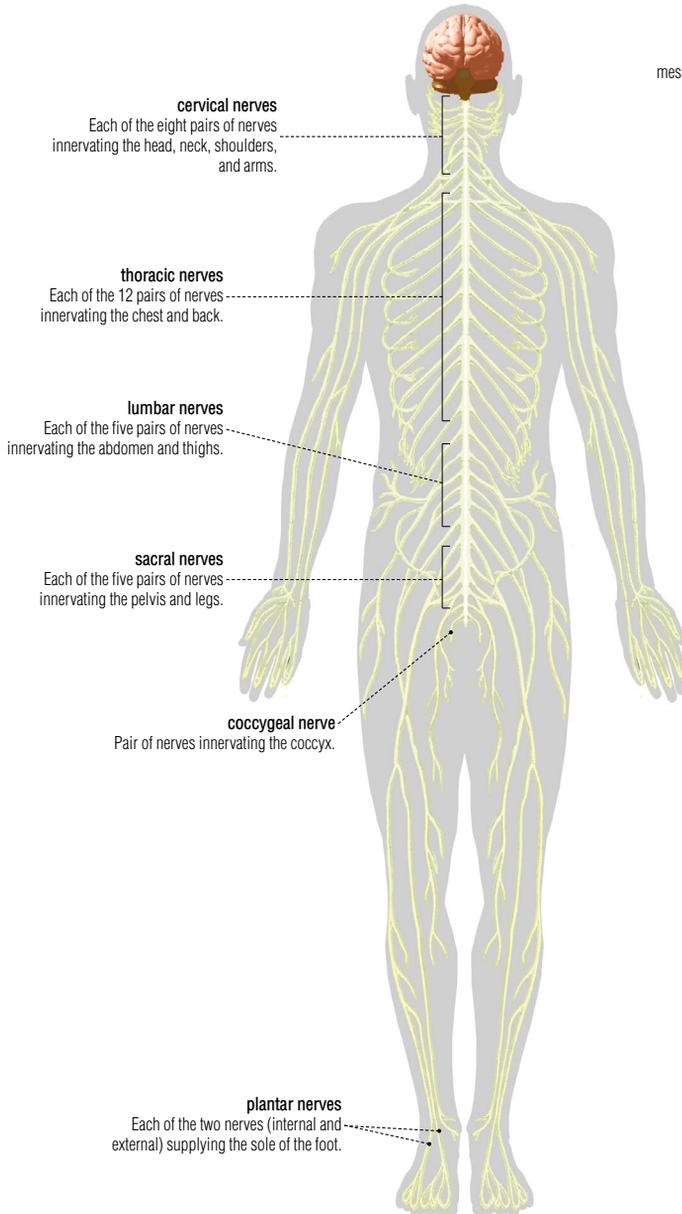


**accessory nerve**  
Motor nerve that controls movements of the neck and swallowing.



**spinal nerves**

Each of the 31 pairs of mixed nerves (sensory and motor) conveying nerve messages between the spinal cord and the different parts of the body.



## nervous system

**central nervous system**

Part of the nervous system connected to the peripheral nervous system formed by the encephalon and the spinal cord; it controls and deciphers nerve information.

**cerebellum**

Part of the encephalon that mainly controls motor coordination, equilibrium, muscle tone and posture.

**cerebrum**

Large part of the encephalon formed of two hemispheres; it contains the control center of the higher nerve functions (motor activities, language and others).

**vertebral column**

Movable bony axis made up of various parts articulating with each other (vertebrae); it supports the skeleton and contains the spinal cord.

**spinal cord**

Part of the central nervous system located in the vertebral column; it receives and transmits nerve information and releases the reflexes.

**dura mater**

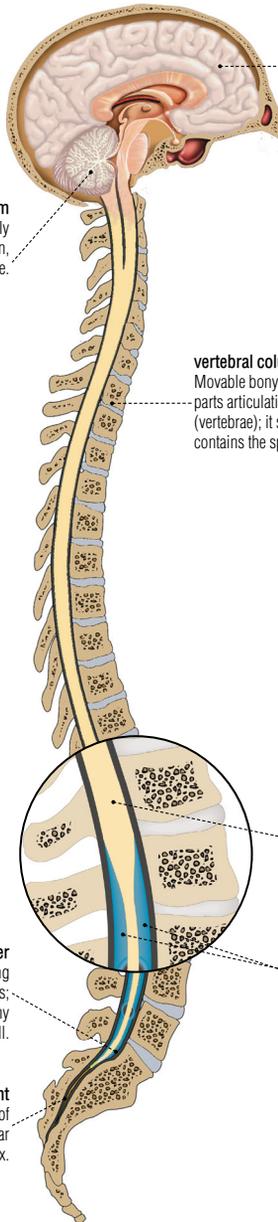
Thick and resistant outer meninx fusing with the tissue covering the spinal nerves; it does not adhere directly to the bony vertebral wall.

**internal filum terminale**

Terminal part of the dura mater extending to the second sacral vertebra.

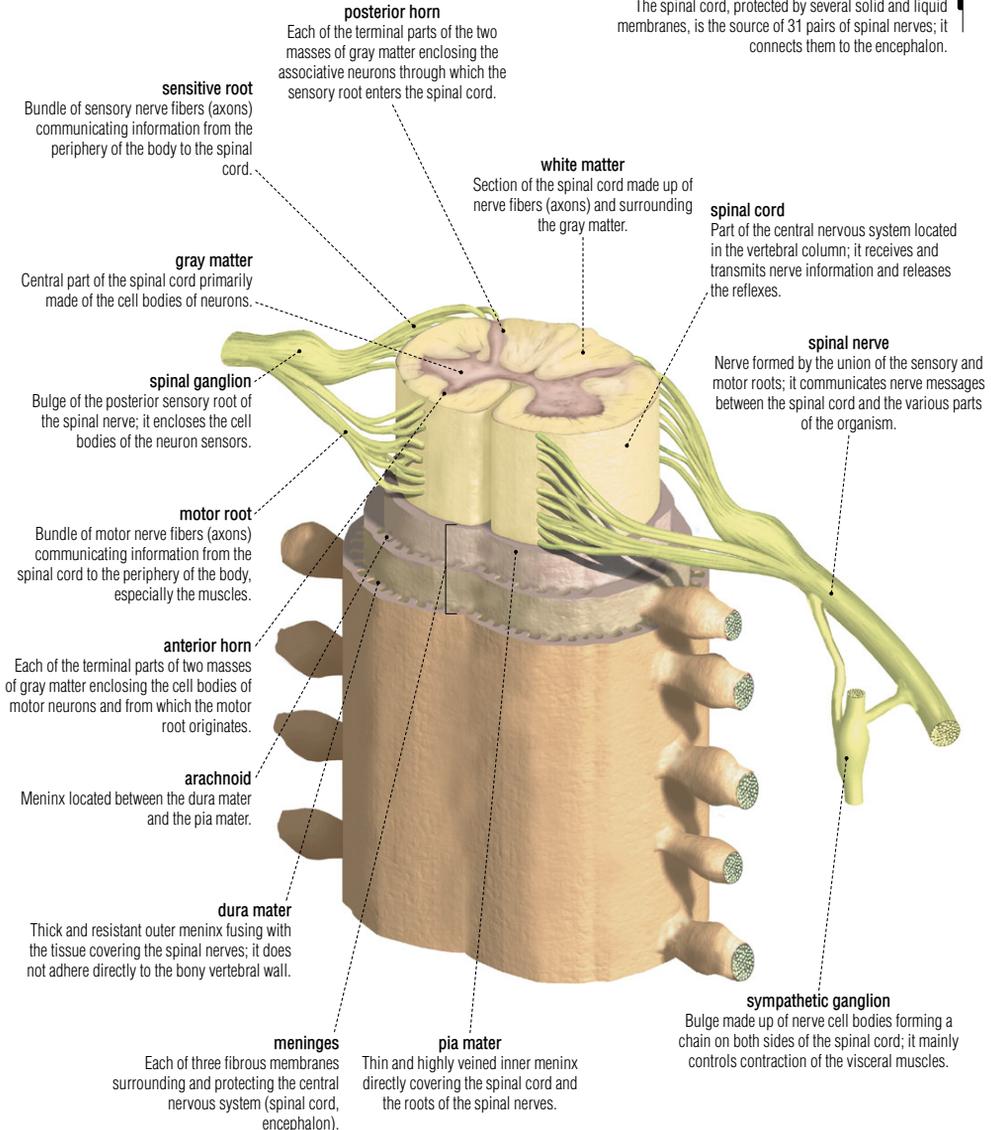
**terminal filament**

Thin fibrous cord that is a continuation of the spinal cord between the second lumbar vertebra and the coccyx.



**structure of the spinal cord**

The spinal cord, protected by several solid and liquid membranes, is the source of 31 pairs of spinal nerves; it connects them to the encephalon.



## nervous system

**brain**

Part of the central nervous system located in the skull, made up of the cerebrum, cerebellum, and brainstem.

**cerebrum**

Large part of the encephalon formed of two hemispheres; it contains the control center of the higher nerve functions (motor activities, language and others).

**corpus callosum**

Thin plate of a white substance formed by a bundle of nerve fibers that connect the two cerebral hemispheres.

**pineal body**

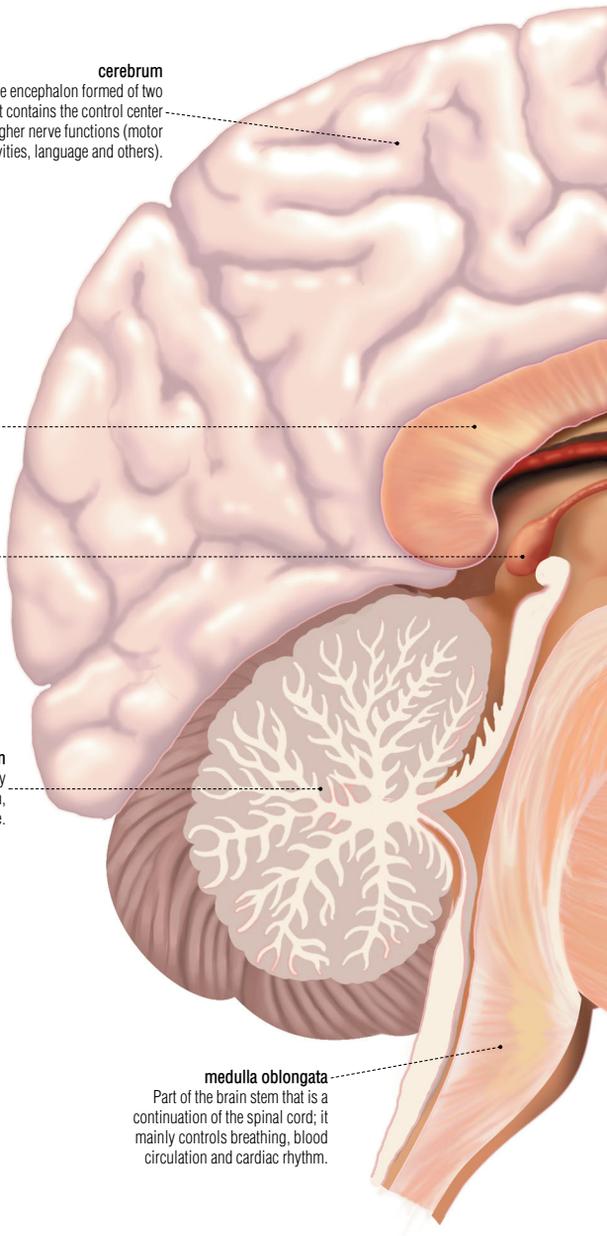
Gland secreting a hormone (melatonin) that mainly influences the biological rhythms.

**cerebellum**

Part of the encephalon that mainly controls motor coordination, equilibrium, muscle tone and posture.

**medulla oblongata**

Part of the brain stem that is a continuation of the spinal cord; it mainly controls breathing, blood circulation and cardiac rhythm.



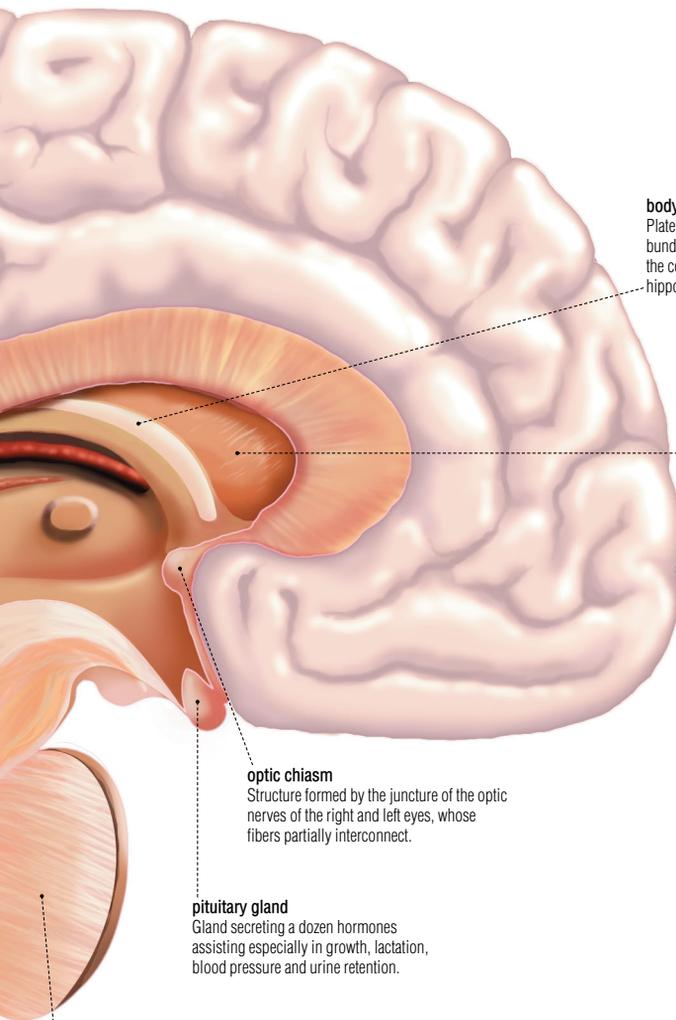
**body of fornix**

Plate of a white substance formed by a bundle of nerve fibers and located below the corpus callosum; it connects the hippocampus to the hypothalamus.

**septum pellucidum**

Thin double membrane separating the anterior part of the two cerebral hemispheres and extending from the corpus callosum to the body of fornix.

**optic chiasm**

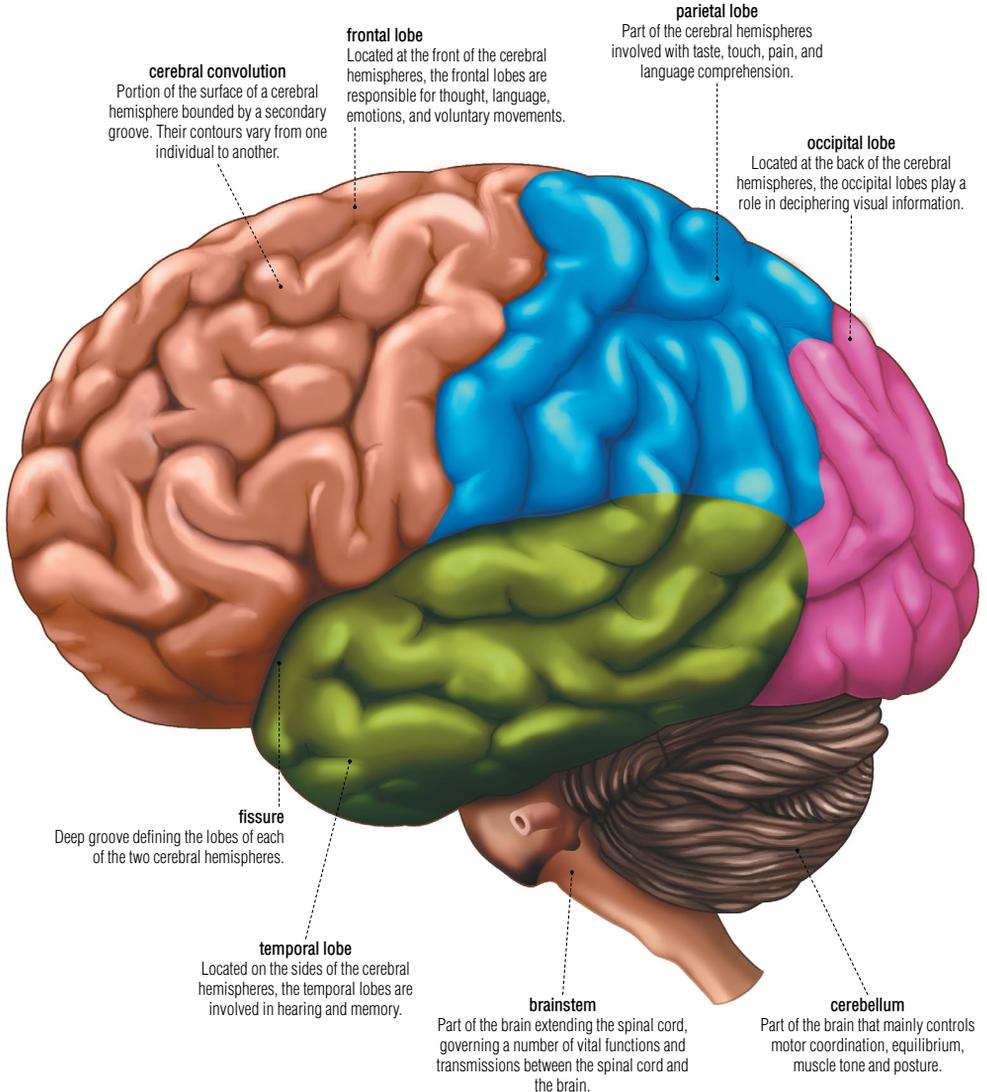
Structure formed by the juncture of the optic nerves of the right and left eyes, whose fibers partially interconnect.

**pituitary gland**

Gland secreting a dozen hormones assisting especially in growth, lactation, blood pressure and urine retention.

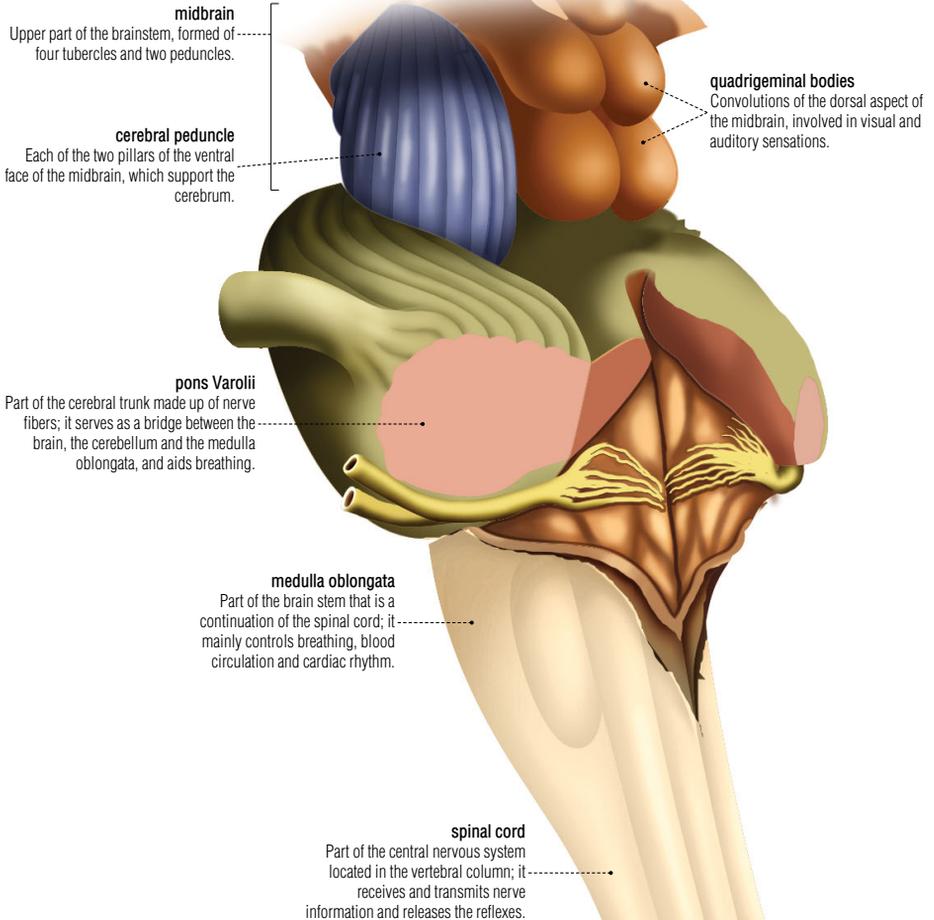
**pons Varolii**

Part of the cerebral trunk made up of nerve fibers; it serves as a bridge between the brain, the cerebellum and the spinal bulb, and aids breathing.



**brainstem**

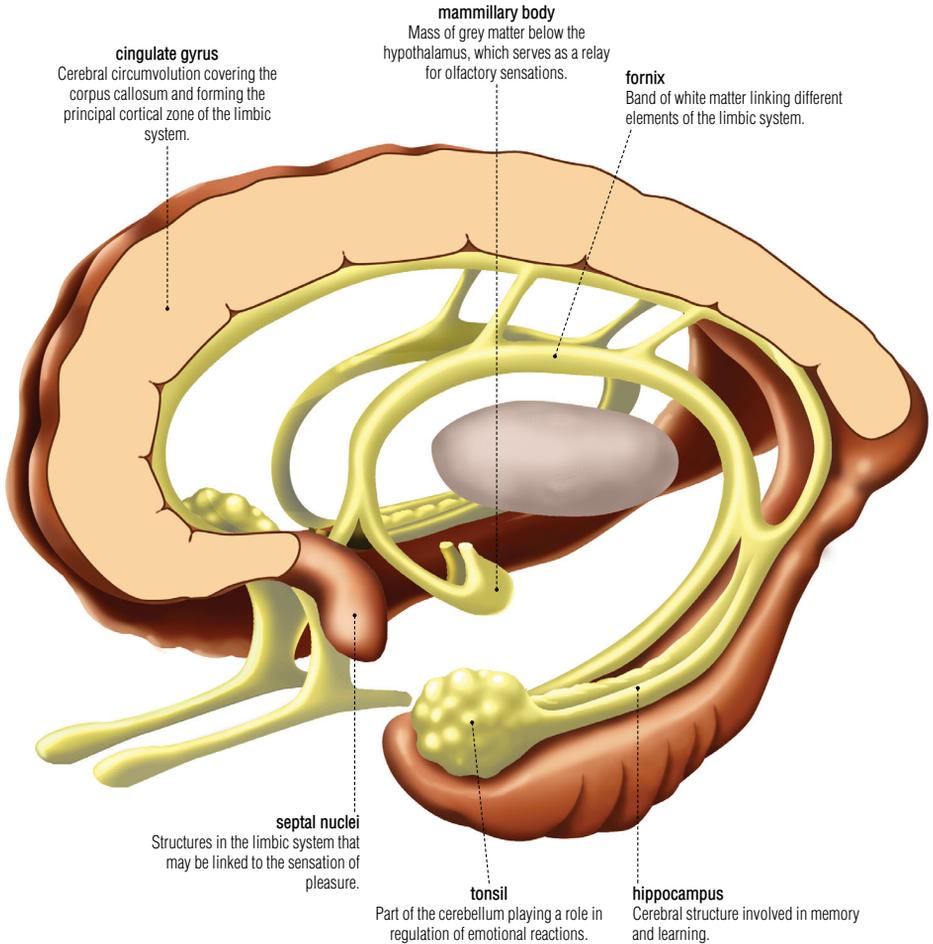
Part of the brain extending the spinal cord, governing a number of vital functions and transmissions between the spinal cord and the brain.

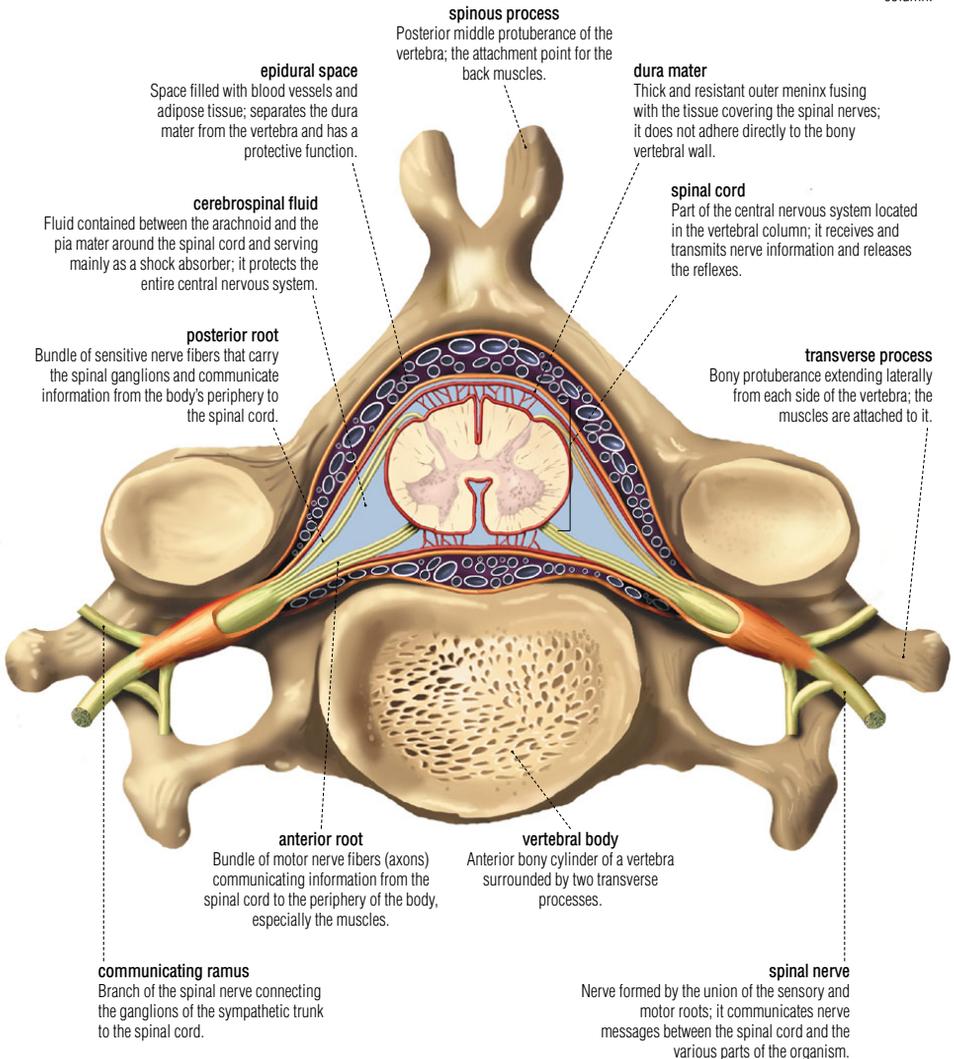


## nervous system

**limbic system**

All of the nerve structures of the cerebrum involved in emotions, memory, and learning.

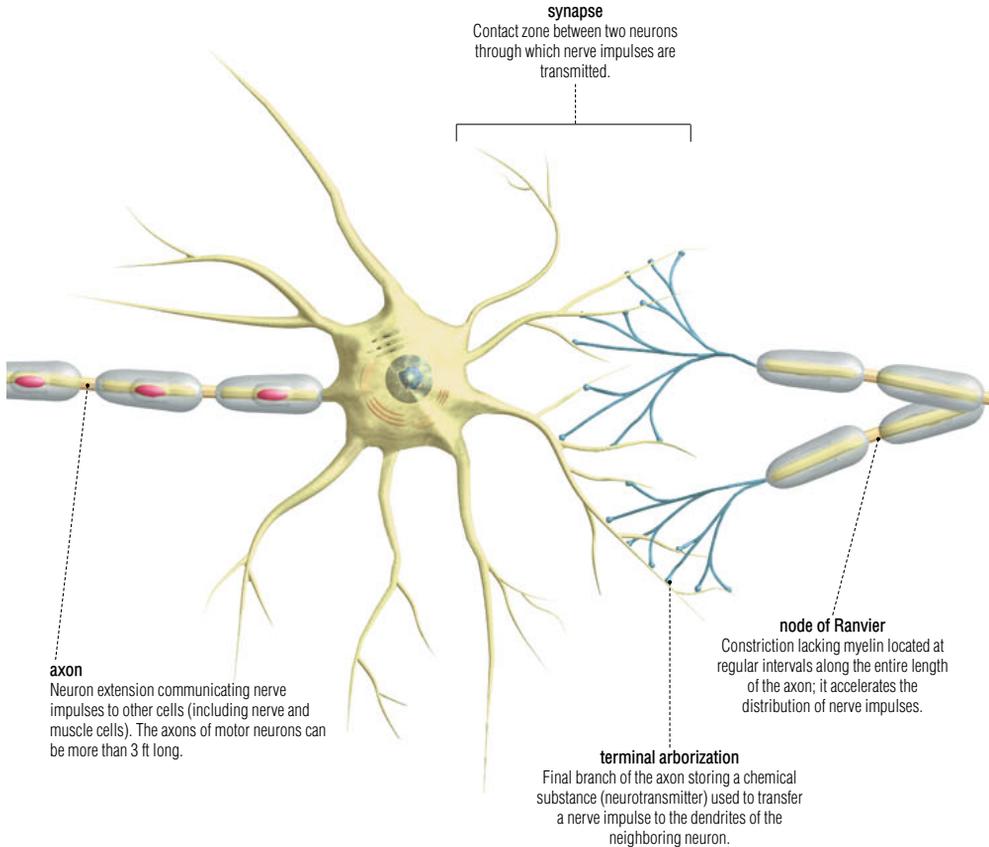


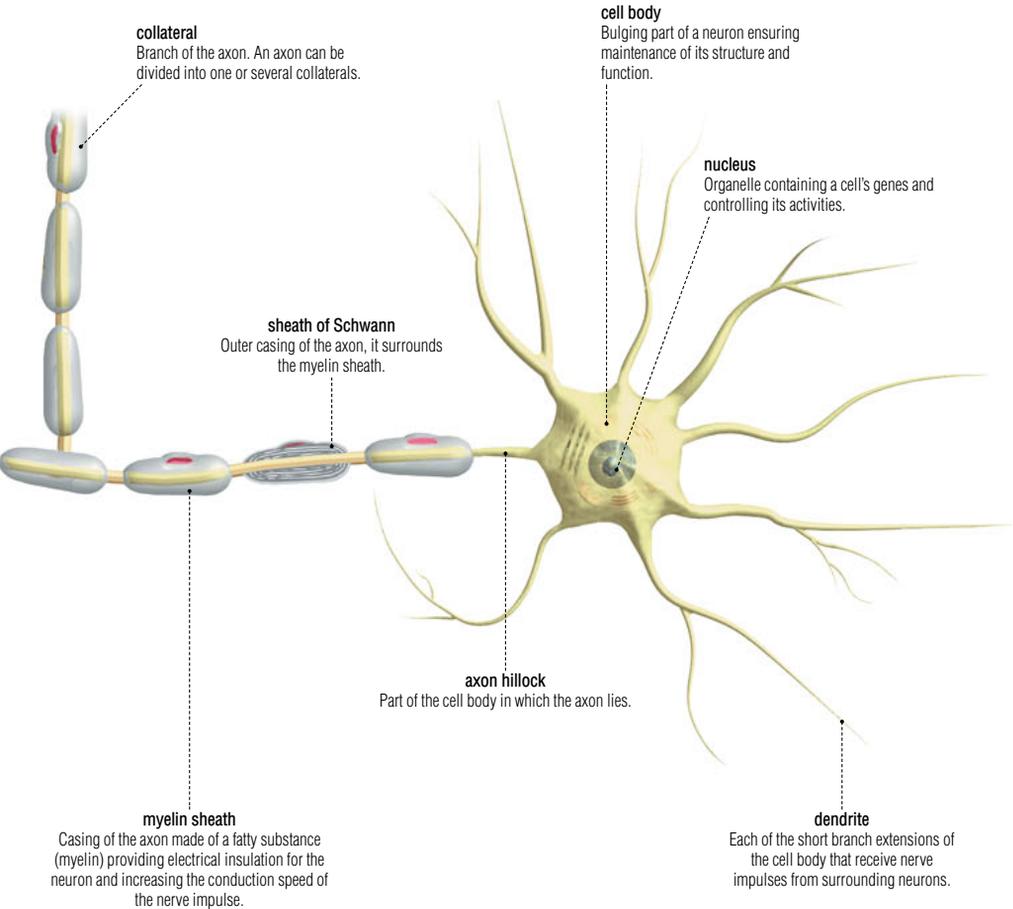


## nervous system

**chain of neurons**

All the interconnected complex nerve cells receiving, communicating and transmitting messages in the form of nerve impulses.

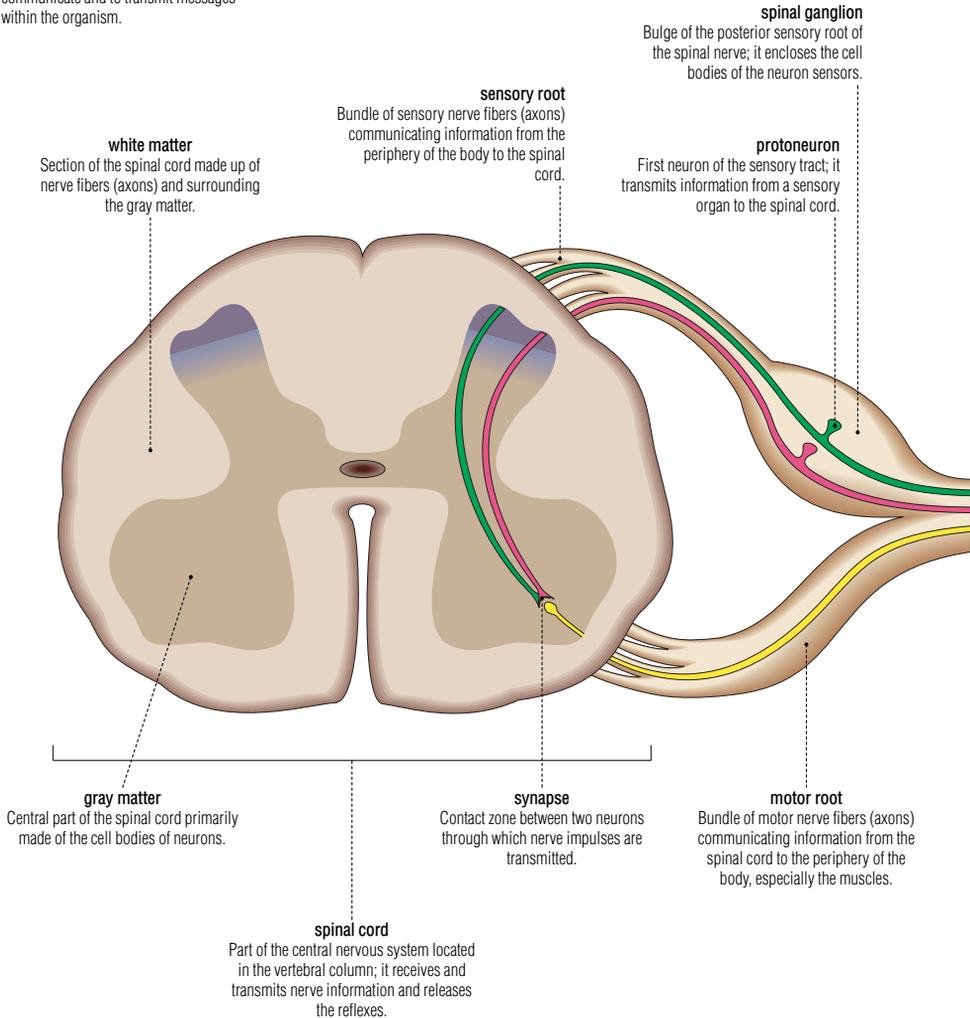


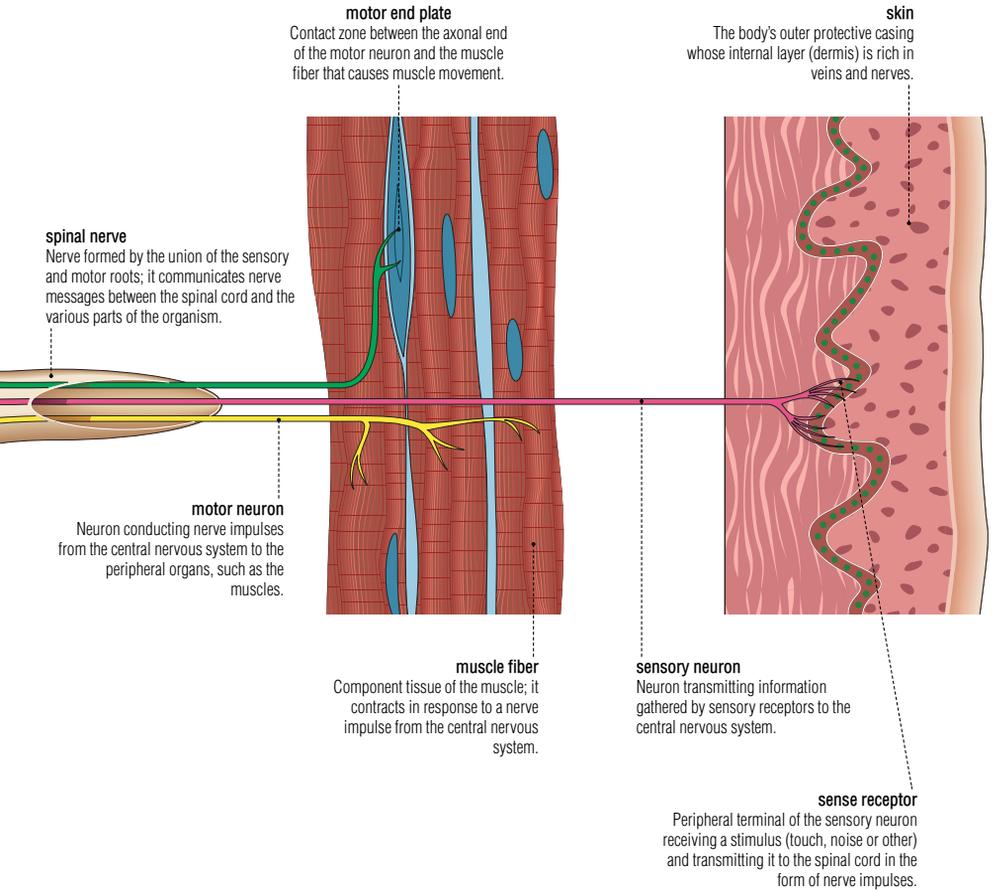


nervous system

**sensory impulse**

Electrical signal propagated along the nerve fibers (axons) enabling the nerve cells to communicate and to transmit messages within the organism.

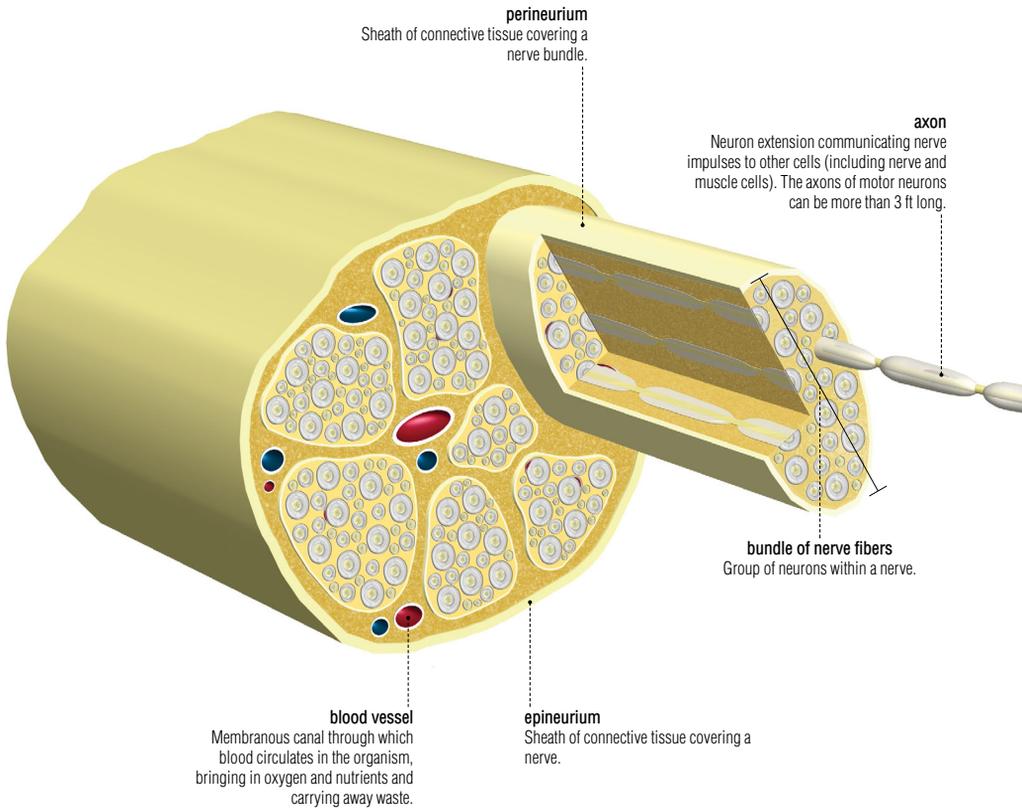




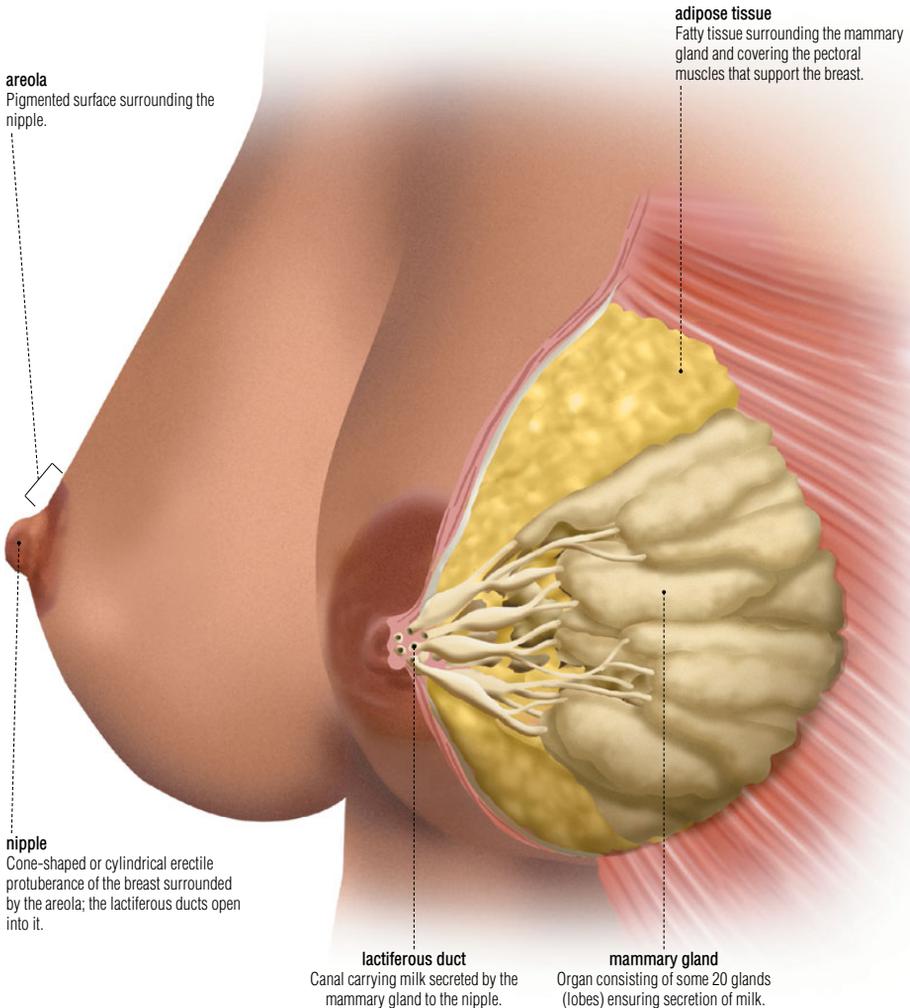
## nervous system

**structure of a nerve**

Nerve: long strand formed of nerve bundles, which transmits sensory or motor messages between the central nervous system and the rest of the body.



Female milk-secreting glandular organ; it develops at puberty and increases in size during pregnancy.

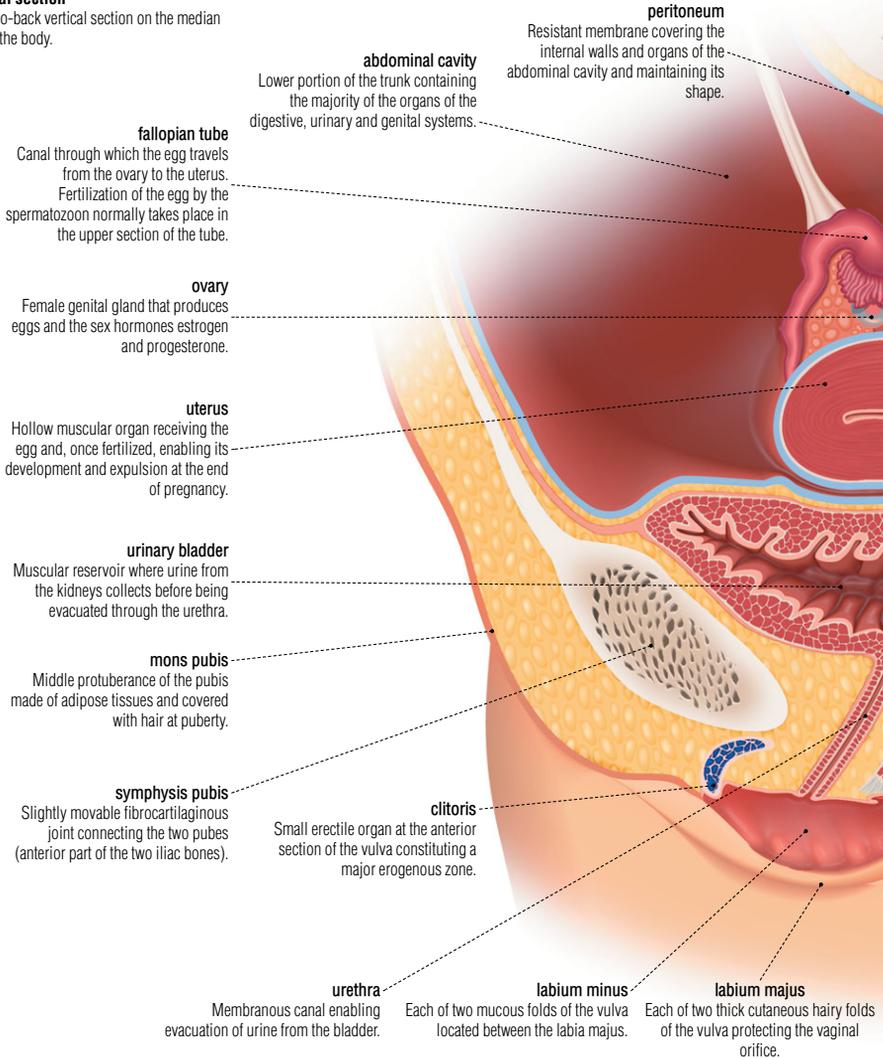


## female reproductive organs

Mainly internal, they enable fertilization of the egg by the spermatozoon and the development of the embryo and fetus.

**sagittal section**

Front-to-back vertical section on the median line of the body.

**peritoneum**

Resistant membrane covering the internal walls and organs of the abdominal cavity and maintaining its shape.

**abdominal cavity**

Lower portion of the trunk containing the majority of the organs of the digestive, urinary and genital systems.

**fallopian tube**

Canal through which the egg travels from the ovary to the uterus. Fertilization of the egg by the spermatozoon normally takes place in the upper section of the tube.

**ovary**

Female genital gland that produces eggs and the sex hormones estrogen and progesterone.

**uterus**

Hollow muscular organ receiving the egg and, once fertilized, enabling its development and expulsion at the end of pregnancy.

**urinary bladder**

Muscular reservoir where urine from the kidneys collects before being evacuated through the urethra.

**mons pubis**

Middle protuberance of the pubis made of adipose tissues and covered with hair at puberty.

**symphysis pubis**

Slightly movable fibrocartilaginous joint connecting the two pubes (anterior part of the two iliac bones).

**clitoris**

Small erectile organ at the anterior section of the vulva constituting a major erogenous zone.

**urethra**

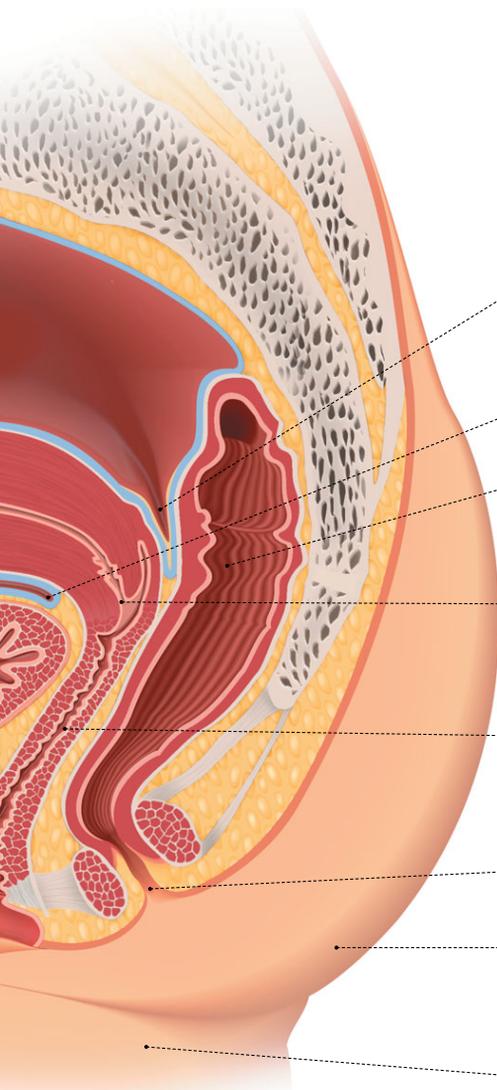
Membranous canal enabling evacuation of urine from the bladder.

**labium minus**

Each of two mucous folds of the vulva located between the labia majus.

**labium majus**

Each of two thick cutaneous hairy folds of the vulva protecting the vaginal orifice.

**pouch of Douglas**

Small pouch formed by the fold of the peritoneum between the rectum and the uterus.

**uterovesical pouch**

Small pouch formed by the fold of the peritoneum between the uterus and the bladder.

**rectum**

Terminal section of the large intestine preceding the anus.

**cervix of uterus**

Lower narrow section of the uterus through which it connects with the vagina.

**vagina**

Muscular canal located between the neck of the uterus and the vulva enabling copulation.

**anus**

Terminal orifice of the digestive tract enabling ejection of fecal matter.

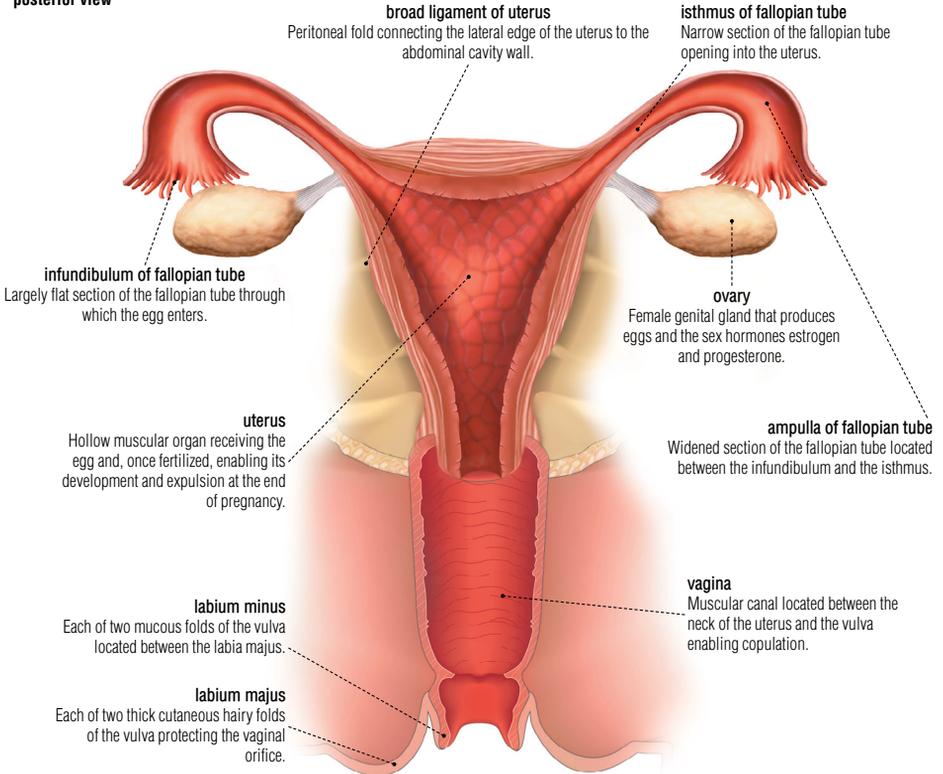
**buttock**

Fleshy part consisting mostly of muscles located at the base of the back.

**thigh**

Section of the leg between the hip and the knee; it contains many powerful muscles.

posterior view



**fallopian tubes**

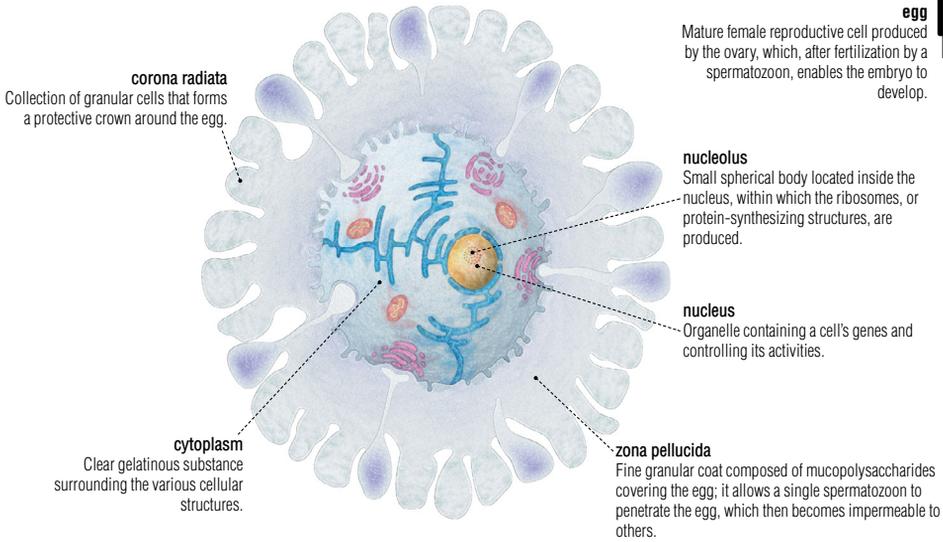
Canals transporting the egg from the ovary to the uterus; fertilization of the egg by the spermatozoon generally takes place in the upper part of the tube.



**vulva**

External female genital organs consisting mainly of the labia and the clitoris.

female reproductive organs

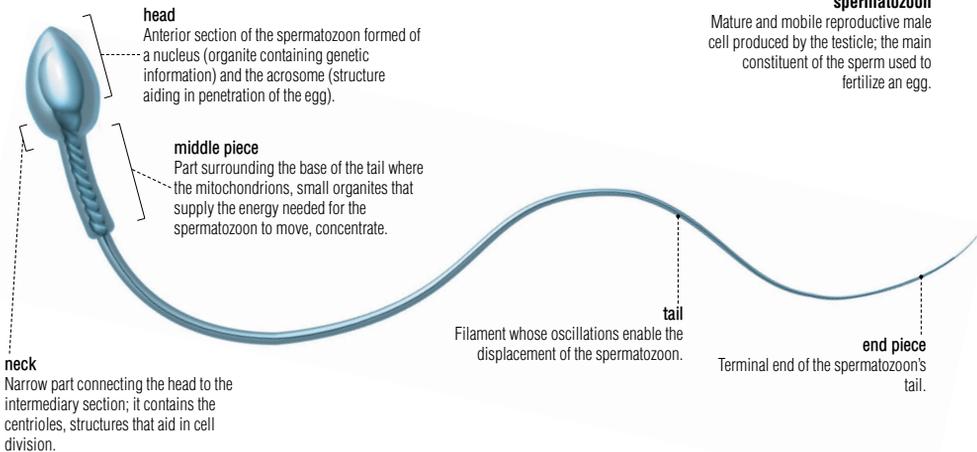


**egg**

Mature female reproductive cell produced by the ovary, which, after fertilization by a spermatozoon, enables the embryo to develop.

male reproductive organs

The male genitalia ensure reproduction; they produce spermatozoa and eject them into the female genital tract during copulation.



**spermatozoon**

Mature and mobile reproductive male cell produced by the testicle; the main constituent of the sperm used to fertilize an egg.

## male reproductive organs

**sagittal section**

Front-to-back vertical section on the median line of the body.

**abdominal cavity**

Lower portion of the trunk containing the majority of the organs of the digestive, urinary and genital systems.

**symphysis pubis**

Slightly movable fibrocartilaginous joint connecting the two pubes (anterior part of the two iliac bones).

**cavernous body**

Erectile tissue of the back of the penis extending to the gland.

**male urethra**

Membranous duct enabling evacuation of urine and carrying sperm to the terminal part of the penis.

**penis**

Organ enabling copulation as well as the evacuation of urine and sperm; during sexual arousal, it fills with blood and forms an erection.

**testicle**

Male genital gland that produces spermatozoa and the sex hormone testosterone.

**scrotum**

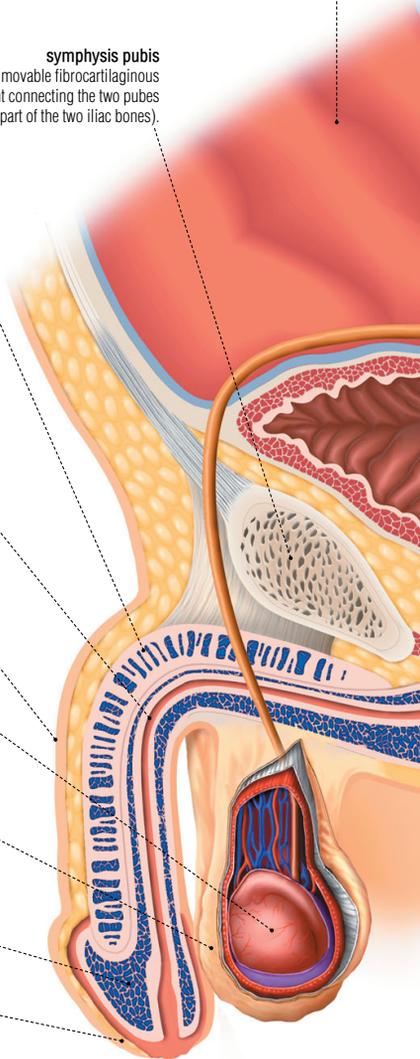
Cutaneous muscular pouch containing the testicles and regulating their temperature.

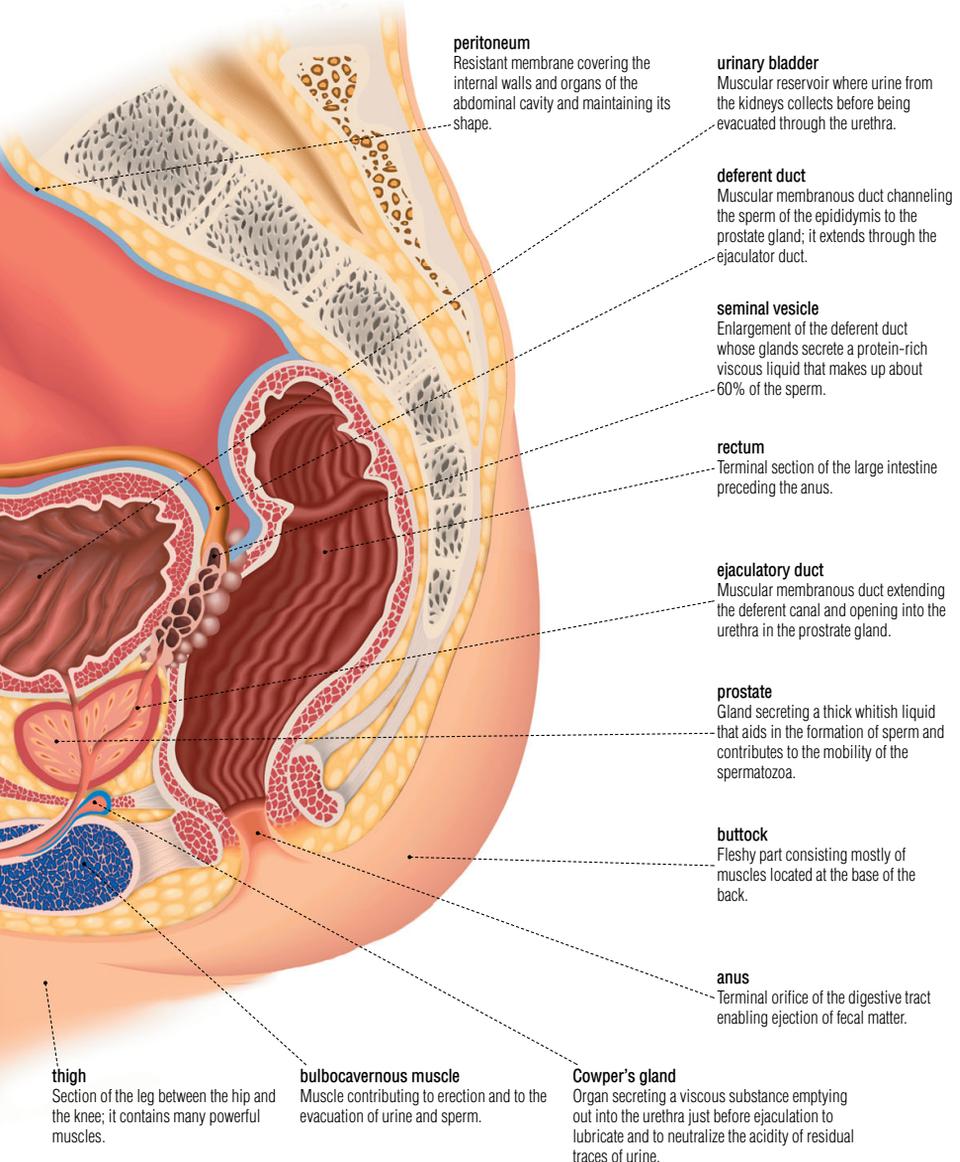
**glans penis**

Bulging anterior terminal portion of the penis consisting of a spongy body; it is surrounded by the prepuce and is where the meatus of the urethra opens.

**prepuce**

Cutaneous fold covering the glans penis.





touch

Sense enabling the skin to detect sensations (contact, heat, pain and others) due to specialized receptors spread widely over the surface of the body.

**skin**

Outer covering of the body consisting of three layers; it has a role in protection, tactile sensation and thermoregulation.

**stratum lucidum**

Layer of the epidermis usually present only in the thick skin of the palms of the hands and soles of the feet.

**stratum granulosum**

Layer of the epidermis whose cells help to form keratin, which renders the skin impermeable.

**stratum basale**

Layer of the epidermis whose cells divide and migrate toward the surface to form the upper layers, thus ensuring renewal of the epidermis.

**sebaceous gland**

Organ connected to a hair follicle secreting a fatty substance (sebum) that lubricates the hair and skin, making them impermeable to air and water.

**arrector pili muscle**

Muscle attached to a hair follicle and whose contraction raises the hair on end as a result of cold or fear.

**nerve fiber**

Structure formed of neuron extensions along which the skin's sensory information travels.

**hair follicle**

Small cavity of the dermis and hypodermis in which the hair root is implanted and which receives secretions from the sebaceous and sweat glands.

**hair**  
Threadlike epidermal outgrowth present on almost the entire body having a sebaceous gland and an arrector pili muscle; it plays a protective role.

**stratum corneum**

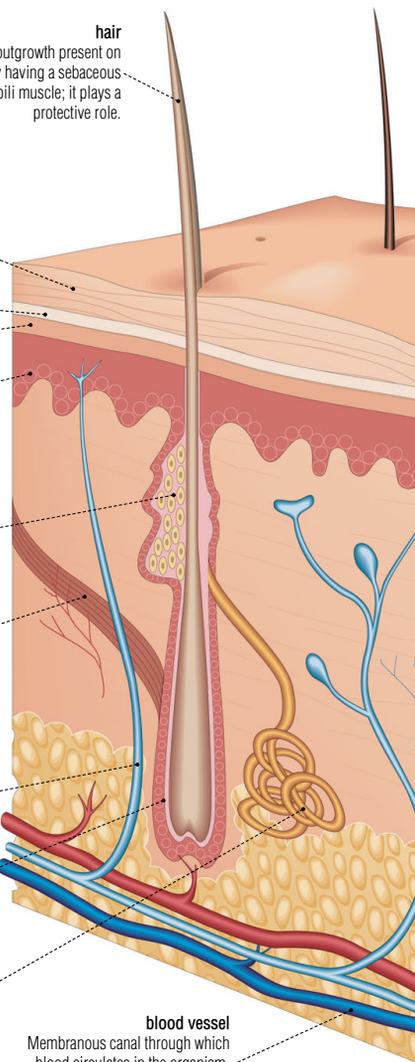
Layer of the epidermis consisting of dead cells rich in keratin (the protein that protects the skin); it is shed as a new layer is formed.

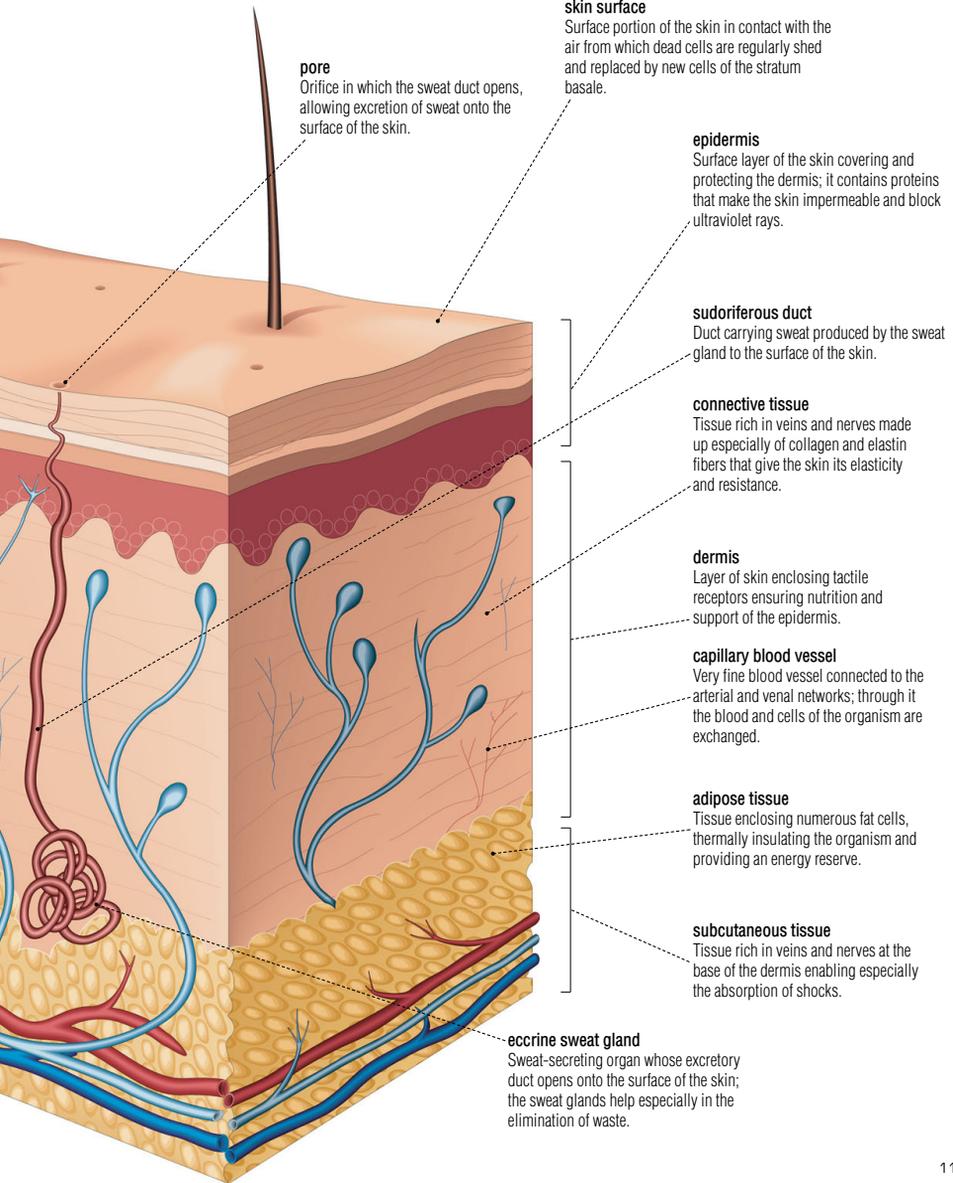
**apocrine sweat gland**

Sweat-secreting organ whose excretory duct opens into the hair follicle.

**blood vessel**

Membranous canal through which blood circulates in the organism, bringing in oxygen and nutrients and carrying away waste.





**pore**  
Orifice in which the sweat duct opens, allowing excretion of sweat onto the surface of the skin.

**skin surface**  
Surface portion of the skin in contact with the air from which dead cells are regularly shed and replaced by new cells of the stratum basale.

**epidermis**  
Surface layer of the skin covering and protecting the dermis; it contains proteins that make the skin impermeable and block ultraviolet rays.

**sudoriferous duct**  
Duct carrying sweat produced by the sweat gland to the surface of the skin.

**connective tissue**  
Tissue rich in veins and nerves made up especially of collagen and elastin fibers that give the skin its elasticity and resistance.

**dermis**  
Layer of skin enclosing tactile receptors ensuring nutrition and support of the epidermis.

**capillary blood vessel**  
Very fine blood vessel connected to the arterial and venal networks; through it the blood and cells of the organism are exchanged.

**adipose tissue**  
Tissue enclosing numerous fat cells, thermally insulating the organism and providing an energy reserve.

**subcutaneous tissue**  
Tissue rich in veins and nerves at the base of the dermis enabling especially the absorption of shocks.

**eccrine sweat gland**  
Sweat-secreting organ whose excretory duct opens onto the surface of the skin; the sweat glands help especially in the elimination of waste.

**hand**

Terminal part of the upper limb having a tactile and prehensile function, with a thumb opposable to the other fingers.

**palm**

Inner portion of the hand corresponding to the metacarpus and located between the wrist and the proximal phalanges of the fingers.

**middle finger**

Third and longest digit of the hand.

**third finger**

Fourth digit of the hand. Rings are worn on this finger, hence it is also called the ring finger.

**index finger**

Second digit of the hand used to point, hence its name.

**thumb**

First digit of the hand formed of two phalanges; short and strong, it moves in such a way that it is opposable to the other digits, thereby enabling grasping.

**little finger**

Last and smallest of the fingers of the hand.



**back**

Outer part of the hand corresponding to the metacarpus and located between the wrist and the proximal phalanges of the fingers.

**fingernail**

Hard corneous plate covering and protecting the back of the distal phalanx; it also has a prehensile function and is continually growing.

**lunula**

Whitish section between the root and the body of the nail corresponding to the visible front portion of the matrix.

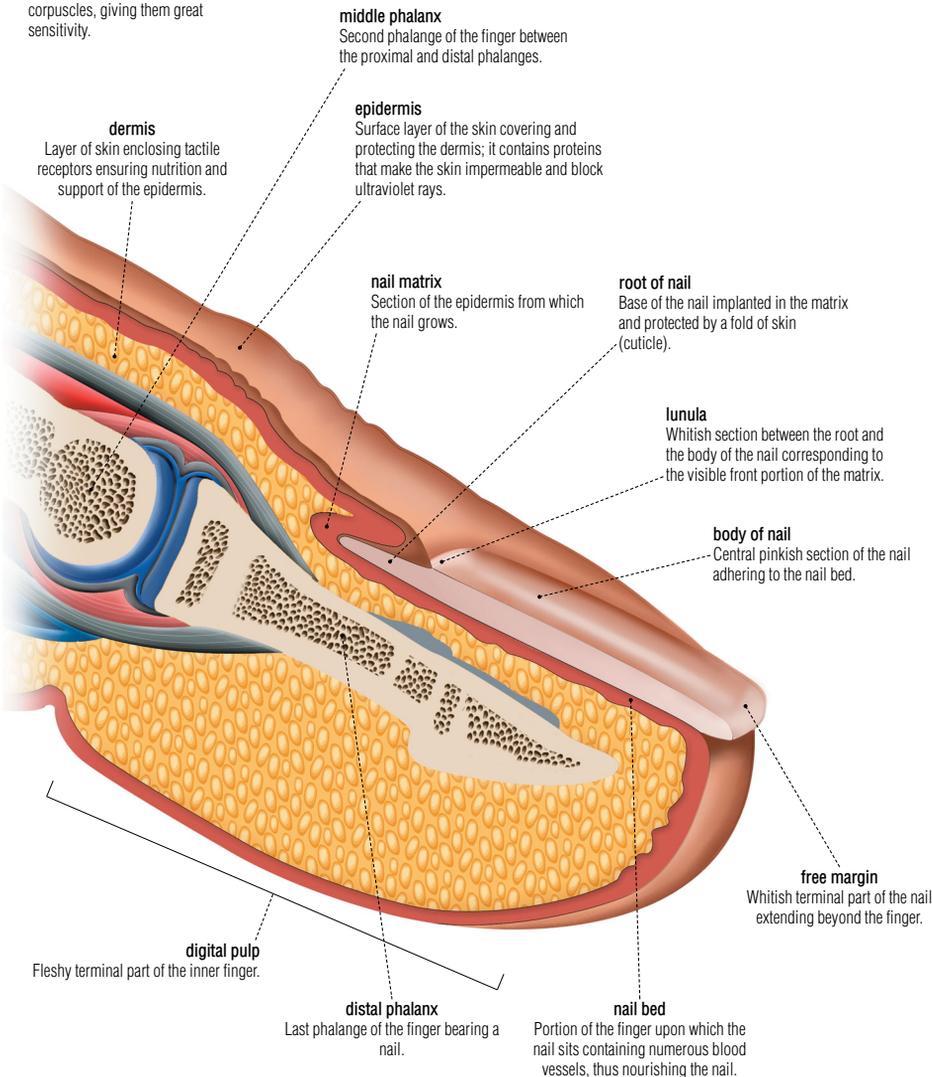
**wrist**

Joint of the hand (carpus) articulating with the forearm (radius); it mainly enables the hand to flex and extend.

touch

**finger**

Each of the five terminal parts of the hand containing numerous Meissner's corpuscles, giving them great sensitivity.



**dermis**

Layer of skin enclosing tactile receptors ensuring nutrition and support of the epidermis.

**middle phalanx**

Second phalanx of the finger between the proximal and distal phalanges.

**epidermis**

Surface layer of the skin covering and protecting the dermis; it contains proteins that make the skin impermeable and block ultraviolet rays.

**nail matrix**

Section of the epidermis from which the nail grows.

**root of nail**

Base of the nail implanted in the matrix and protected by a fold of skin (cuticle).

**lunula**

Whitish section between the root and the body of the nail corresponding to the visible front portion of the matrix.

**body of nail**

Central pinkish section of the nail adhering to the nail bed.

**free margin**

Whitish terminal part of the nail extending beyond the finger.

**digital pulp**

Fleshy terminal part of the inner finger.

**distal phalanx**

Last phalanx of the finger bearing a nail.

**nail bed**

Portion of the finger upon which the nail sits containing numerous blood vessels, thus nourishing the nail.

Sense that perceives sounds and maintains balance; the human ear is capable of distinguishing almost 400,000 sounds.

**auricle**

Soft cartilaginous outer portion of the ear located at the side of the head; it allows sounds to be collected.

**triangular fossa**

Small depression located in the upper portion of the helix between its two branches.

**helix**

Protruding fold of the auricle of the ear extending from the concha to the lobe.

**crus of helix**

Front portion of the helix beginning at the base of the concha.

**antihelix**

Protuberance parallel to and inside the helix dividing into two branches in its upper section.

**anterior notch**

Deep depression separating the helix from the tragus.

**concha**

Deep cavity of the auricle of the ear above the antitragus; the acoustic meatus opens into it.

**acoustic meatus**

Opening through which sounds collected by the auricle reach the tympanic cavity.

**antitragus**

Small triangular protuberance at the terminal end of the antihelix.

**tail of helix**

Terminal end of the helix extending to the upper portion of the lobe.

**intertragic notch**

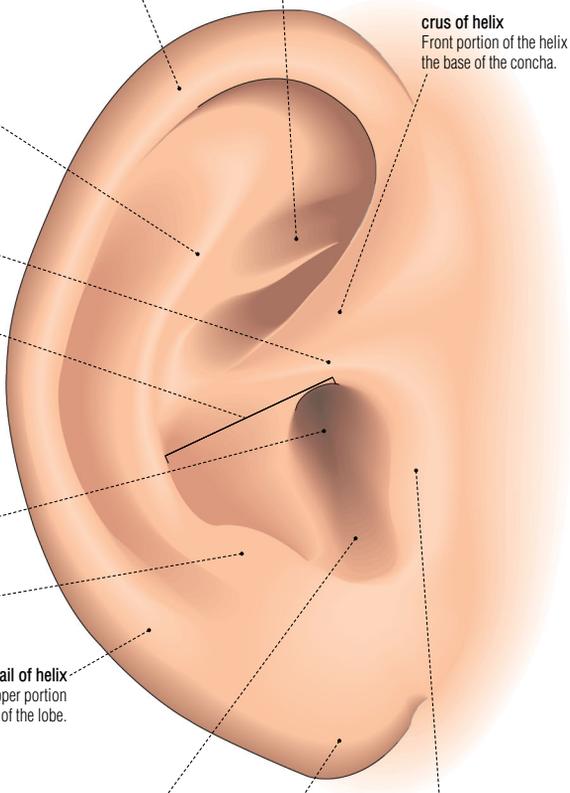
Deep depression at the base of the acoustic meatus between the antitragus and the tragus.

**earlobe**

Fleshy extension of the lower section of the auricle; it plays no role in hearing.

**tragus**

Flat triangular protuberance located in front of the acoustic meatus, protecting especially the concha.



hearing

**structure of the ear**

The ear is made up of three distinct parts; hearing is controlled by the inner ear, which contains the sensory organs.



**external ear**

Visible portion of the ear enabling sounds to be collected and directed to the middle ear through the acoustic meatus.



**middle ear**

Air-filled cavity hollowed out of the temporal bone; it receives sounds from the external ear, amplifies them through the auricles and transmits them to the internal ear.

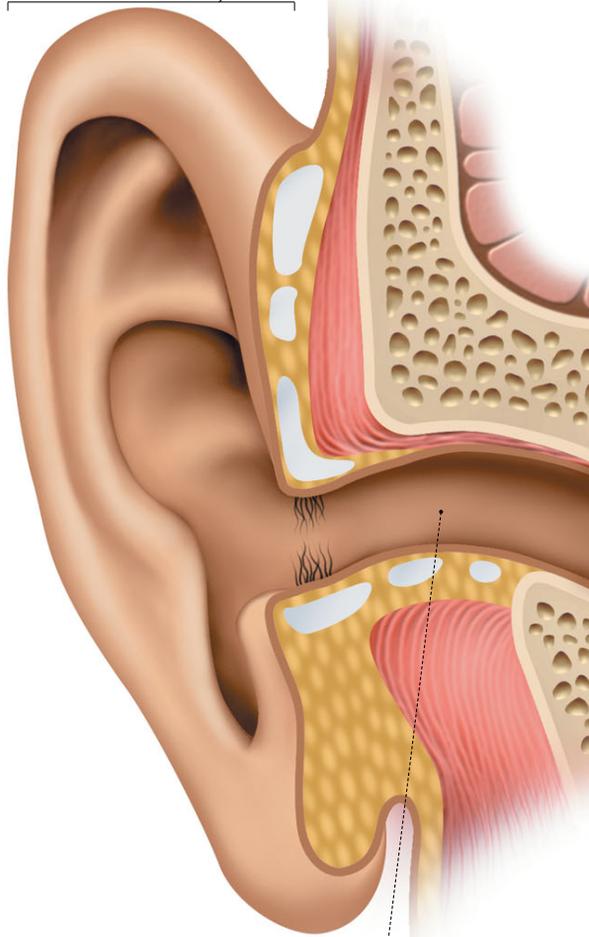


**internal ear**

Liquid-filled cavity hollowed out of the temporal bone that transforms sound vibrations into nerve influxes to be interpreted by the brain.

**auricle**

Soft cartilaginous outer portion of the ear located at the side of the head; it allows sounds to be collected.



**acoustic meatus**

Canal carrying the sounds collected by the pinna to the ear drum. It is lined with hair and covered with cerumen, a waxy substance that retains dust particles.

**ear drum**

Slender resistant elastic membrane; it vibrates when sound waves are received from the auditory canal, then transmits the waves to the ossicles.

**auditory ossicles**

The smallest bones in the human body, held in place by several muscles and ligaments; they amplify the vibrations of the ear drum.

**posterior semicircular canal**

Vertical canal parallel to the temporal bone; it monitors head movements to ensure that equilibrium is maintained.

**superior semicircular canal**

Vertical canal perpendicular to the temporal bone; it monitors head movements to ensure that equilibrium is maintained.

**lateral semicircular canal**

Horizontal canal; it monitors head movements to ensure that equilibrium is maintained.

**vestibular nerve**

Nerve transmitting messages related to equilibrium to the brain; it emanates from the vestibule and the semicircular canals.

**cochlear nerve**

Nerve transmitting auditory messages collected in the cochlea to the brain. The cochlear and vestibular nerves join to form the auditory nerve.

**vestibule**

Bony structure into which the three semicircular canals open; with these canals, it is responsible for equilibrium.

**cochlea**

Bony structure intended for hearing; it receives vibrations from the ossicles and transforms them into nervous impulses before transmitting them to the brain.

**auditory ossicles**

Each of the three small interarticulated bones of the middle ear that amplify the vibrations of the ear drum and transmit them to the internal ear.

**Eustachian tube**

Tube connecting the middle ear to the nasopharynx; it allows outside air to pass through, thus equalizing air pressure on both sides of the ear drum.

**incus**

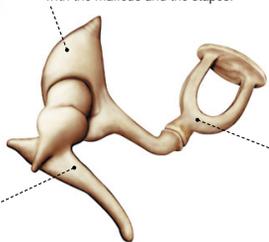
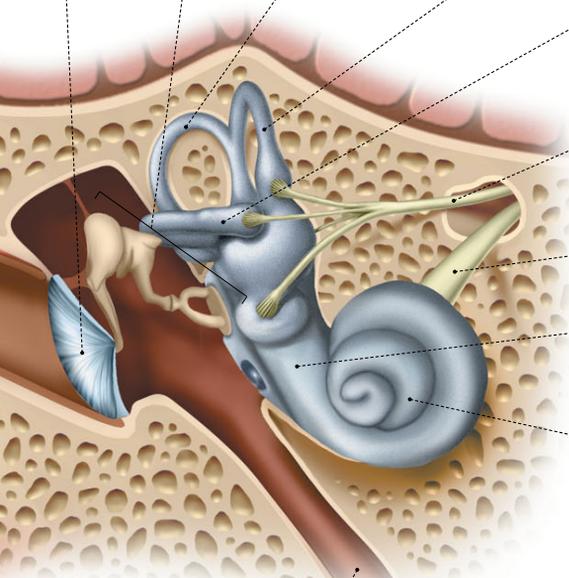
Auricle of the middle ear articulating with the malleus and the stapes.

**malleus**

Auricle of the middle ear transmitting vibrations to the incus from the ear drum (to which it is attached).

**stapes**

Auricle of the middle ear transmitting vibrations from the incus to the internal ear; at about .15 in long, the stapes is the smallest bone in the body.



hearing

**cochlea**

Bony structure intended for hearing; it receives vibrations from the ossicles and transforms them into nervous impulses before transmitting them to the brain.

**vestibular canal**

Duct filled with liquid that receives vibrations transmitted by the ossicles and directs them toward the organ of Corti.

**cochlear nerve**

Nerve transmitting auditory messages collected in the cochlea to the brain.

**organ of Corti**

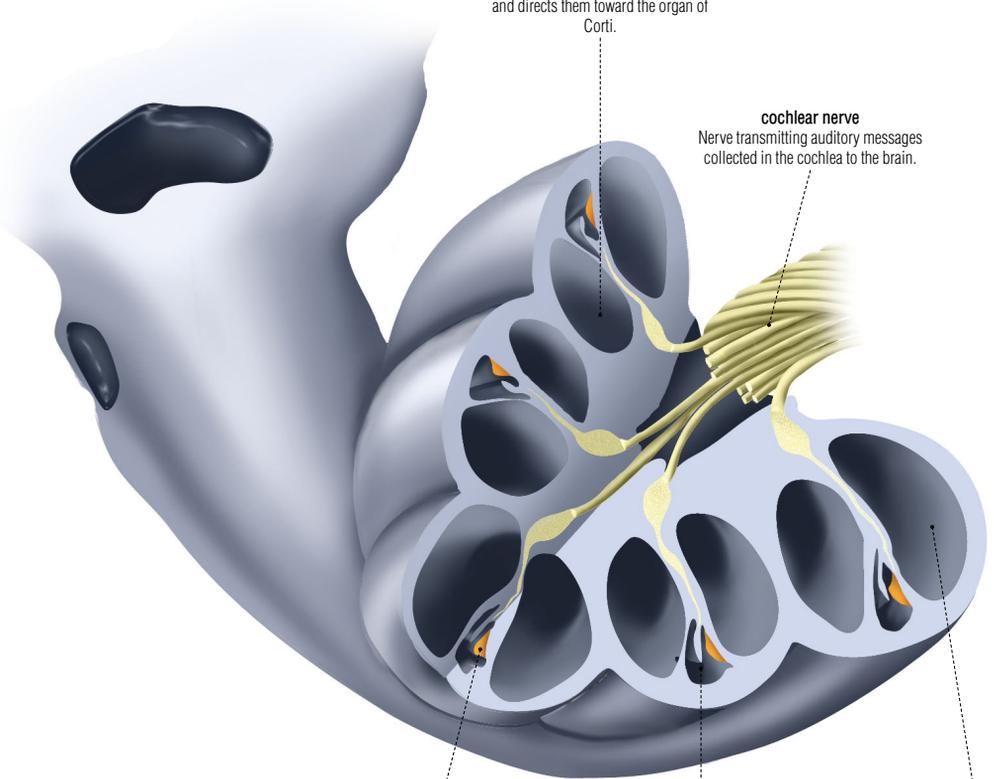
Organ containing the receptor cells of the ear; they transform the vibrations into nerve impulses transmitted to the cerebrum.

**cochlear canal**

Duct with flexible walls, filled with liquid, that houses the organ of Corti.

**tympanic canal**

Duct filled with liquid by which sound waves leave the cochlea after stimulating the organ of Corti.



**auditory cortex**

Part of the cerebral cortex that receives auditory messages relayed by the cochlear nerve.

**primary auditory cortex**

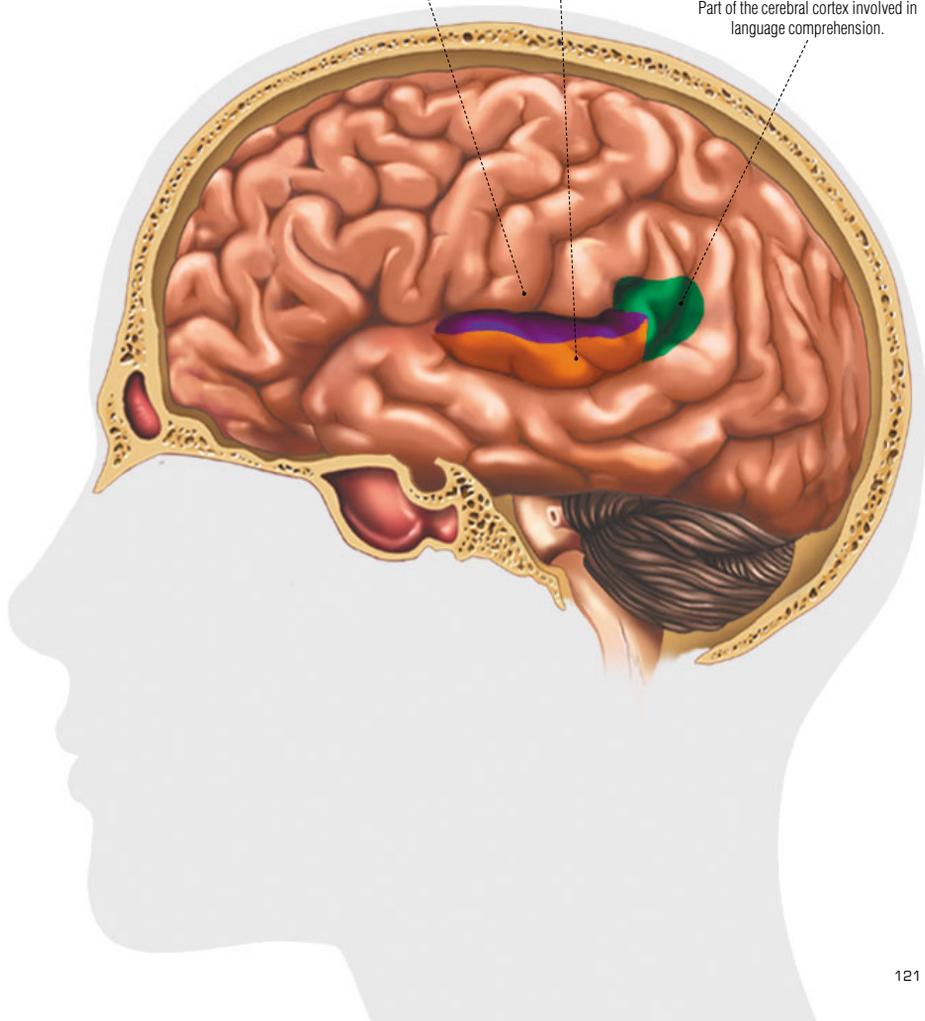
Part of the auditory cortex that is the seat of precise representations of sounds.

**secondary auditory cortex**

Part of the auditory cortex that provides more diffuse representation of sounds perceived.

**Wernicke's area**

Part of the cerebral cortex involved in language comprehension.

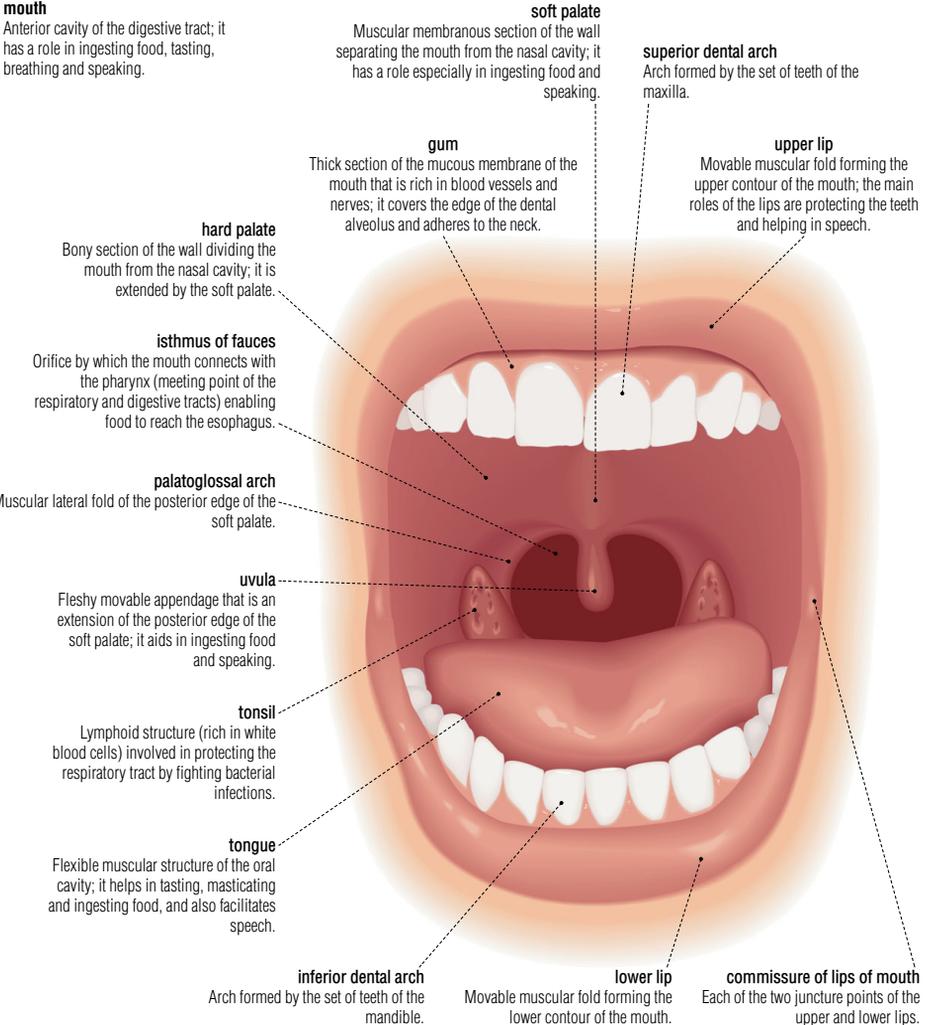


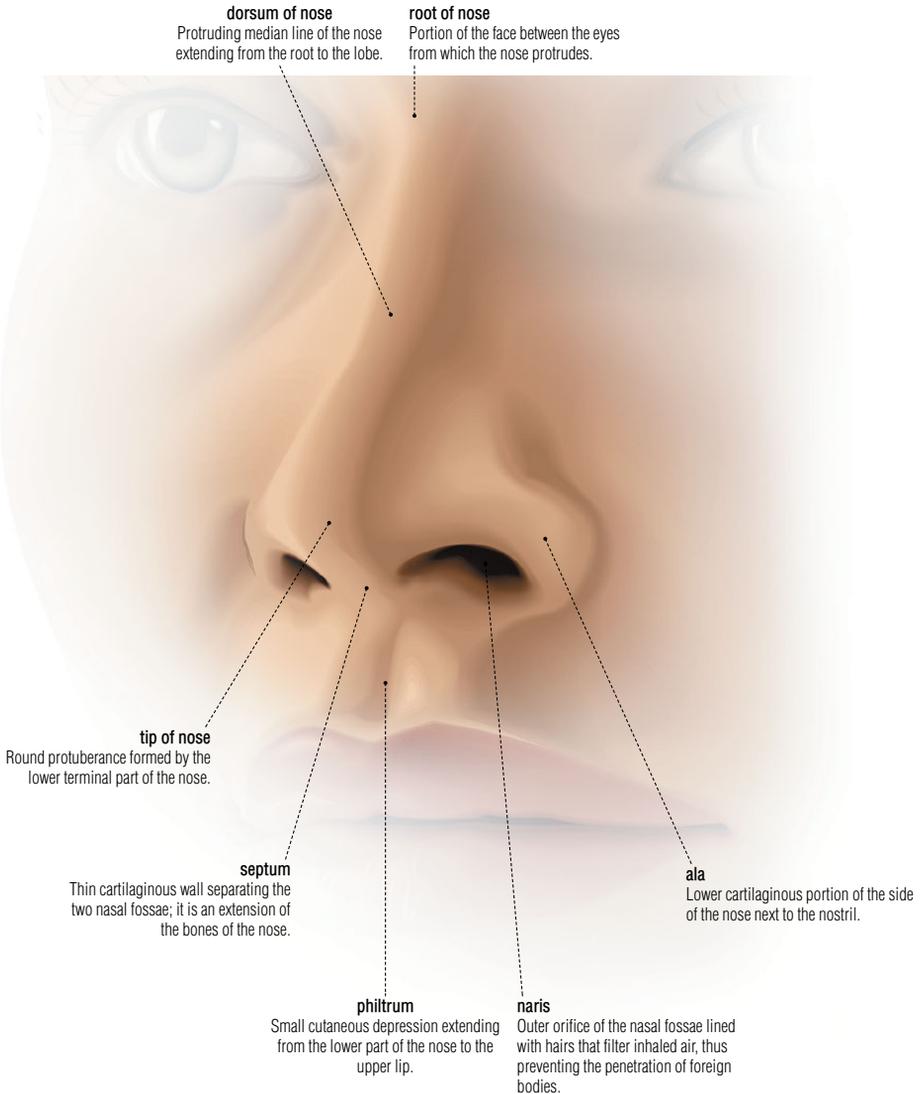
## smell and taste

Since the oral and nasal cavities are connected, the olfactory sense affects taste. The human being can distinguish four basic flavors and almost 10,000 odors.

### mouth

Anterior cavity of the digestive tract; it has a role in ingesting food, tasting, breathing and speaking.





smell and taste

**nasal fossae**

Each of two cavities separated by a middle partition; they assist in olfaction, respiration and speech.

**frontal sinus**

Cavity hollowed out of the frontal bone of the skull; it connects with the nasal fossae and warms inhaled air.

**superior nasal concha**

Curved bony plate resting on the ethmoid and contributing to olfaction by bringing inhaled air into contact with the mucous membrane.

**nasal bone**

Small flat bone forming the skeleton of the root of the nose; the two nasal bones join along the bridge of the nose.

**septal cartilage of nose**

Plate of resistant elastic tissue; it extends the bones of the nose and separates the nasal fossae.

**middle nasal concha**

Curved bony plate resting on the ethmoid. Among its functions, the nasal chamber warms inhaled air by increasing the mucous surface.

**greater alar cartilage**

Thin plate of resistant elastic tissue supporting the bridge of the nose and delimiting the contour of the nostril.

**inferior nasal concha**

Curved bony plate attached to the lateral wall of the nasal fossae.

**olfactory bulb**

Nerve structure where fibers of the olfactory nerve end; it receives nervous impulses from the mucous membrane and transmits them to the olfactory tract.

**olfactory nerve**

Bundle of nerve fibers formed by the axons of the mucous membrane's olfactory cells, which transmit nerve impulses to the brain.

**olfactory tract**

Nerve structure containing the axons; it enables nerve impulses from the bulb to be carried to the brain, where they are interpreted.

**olfactory mucosa**

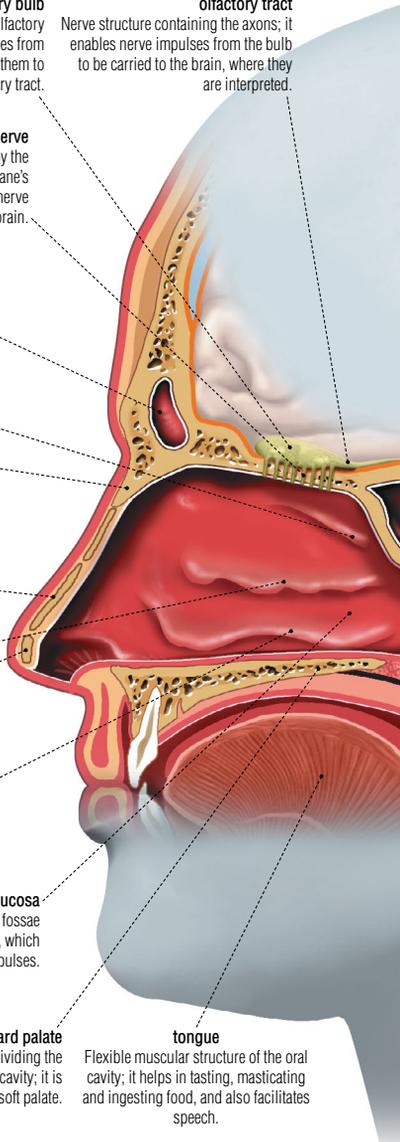
Tissue lining a portion of the nasal fossae and containing olfactory cells, which detect odors and release nerve impulses.

**hard palate**

Bony section of the wall dividing the mouth from the nasal cavity; it is extended by the soft palate.

**tongue**

Flexible muscular structure of the oral cavity; it helps in tasting, masticating and ingesting food, and also facilitates speech.



**sphenoidal sinus**

Cavity hollowed out of the sphenoid bone of the skull; it connects with the nasal fossae and warms inhaled air.

**nasopharynx**

Section of the pharynx (meeting point of the respiratory and digestive tracts) through which the mouth connects with the nasal fossae and where the Eustachian tube opens.

**Eustachian tube**

Tube connecting the middle ear to the nasopharynx; it allows outside air to pass through, thus equalizing air pressure on both sides of the ear drum.

**soft palate**

Muscular membranous section of the wall separating the mouth from the nasal cavity; it has a role especially in ingesting food and speaking.

**uvula**

Fleshy movable appendage that is an extension of the posterior edge of the soft palate; it aids in ingesting food and speaking.

**olfactory bulb**

Nerve structure where fibers of the olfactory nerve end; it receives nervous impulses from the mucous membrane and transmits them to the olfactory tract.

**axon**

Extension of olfactory cell, communicating nerve impulses to the olfactory bulb.

**Bowman's gland**

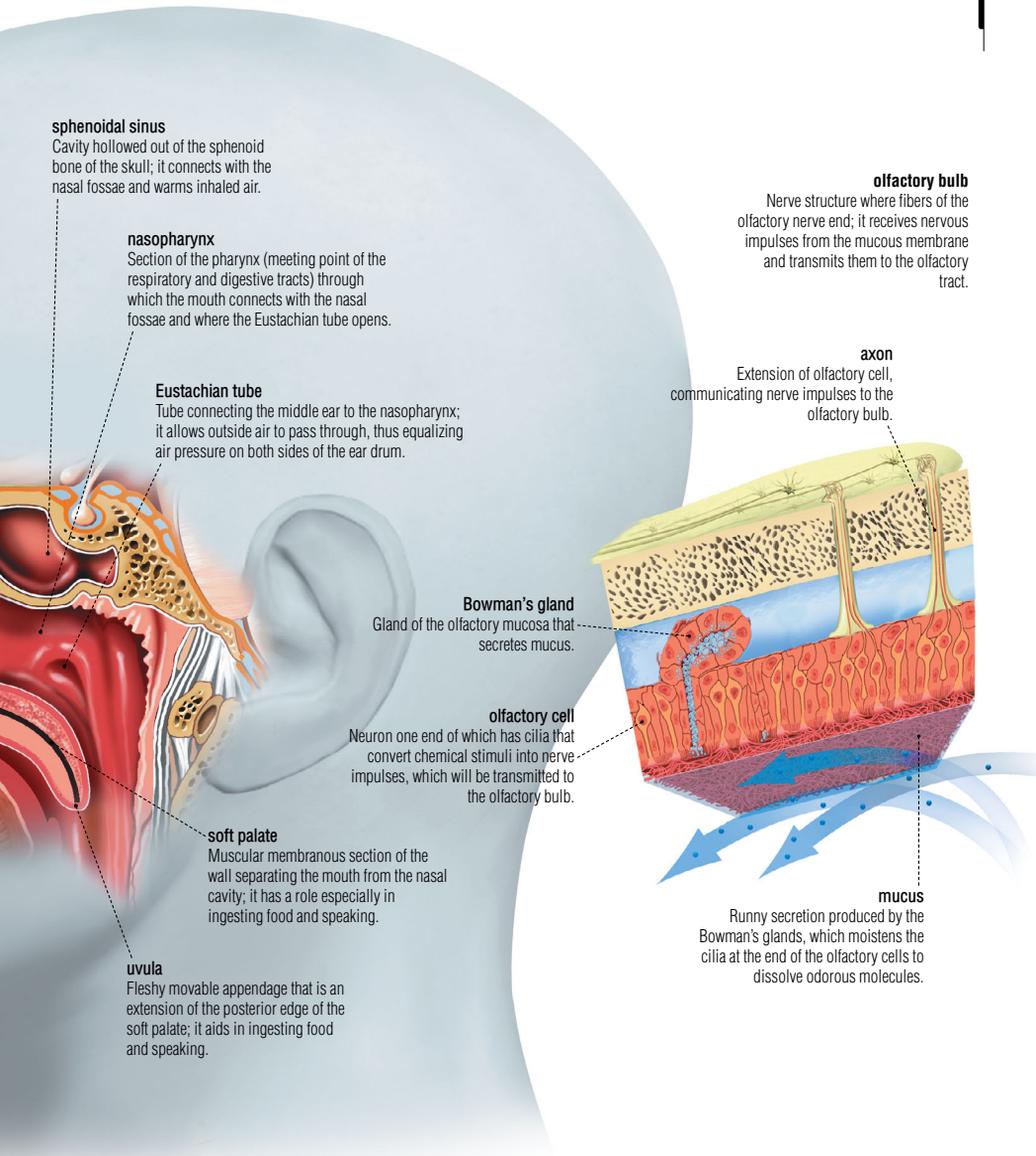
Gland of the olfactory mucosa that secretes mucus.

**olfactory cell**

Neuron one end of which has cilia that convert chemical stimuli into nerve impulses, which will be transmitted to the olfactory bulb.

**mucus**

Runny secretion produced by the Bowman's glands, which moistens the cilia at the end of the olfactory cells to dissolve odor molecules.



## smell and taste

## dorsum of tongue

**epiglottis**  
Movable cartilaginous plate ensuring that the larynx closes during ingestion of food so that food cannot enter the respiratory tract.

**lingual tonsil**  
Lymphoid structure (rich in white blood cells) located at the base of the tongue; it assists in immune defense.

**palatine tonsil**  
Lymphoid structure (rich in white blood cells) located on each side of the base of the tongue; it protects the respiratory tract by fighting bacteria.

**foramen cecum**  
Small depression located at the base of the tongue, at the top of the sulcus terminalis.

**root**  
Part that fixes the tongue to the mandible and the hyoid bone of the skull; it is also joined on each side to the walls of the pharynx.

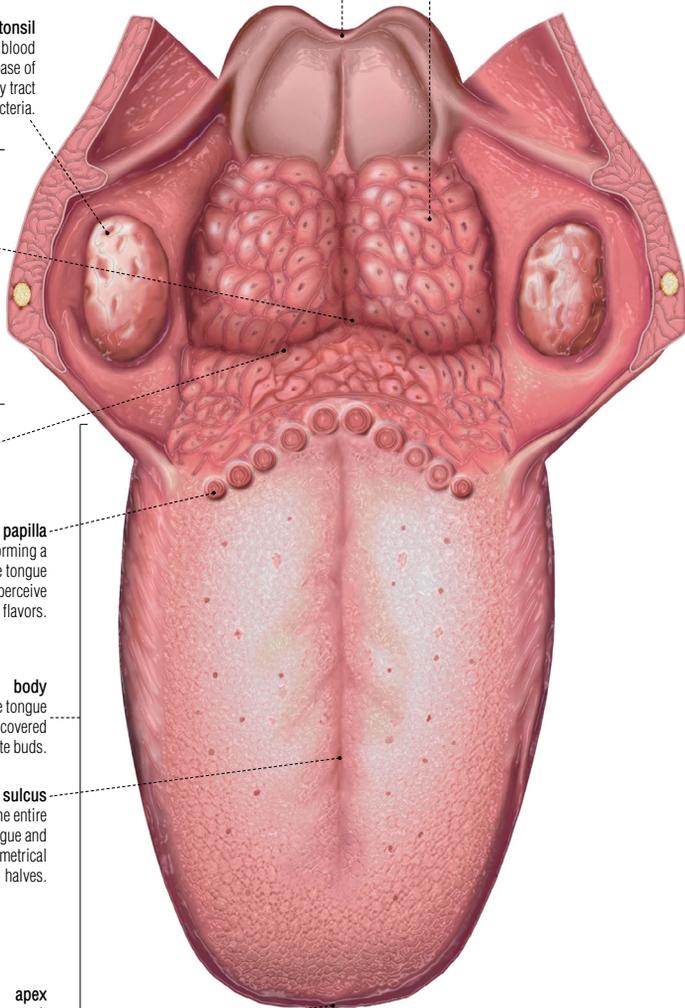
**sulcus terminalis**  
Inverted V-shaped depression separating the base of the body of the tongue, topped by the foramen cecum.

**circumvallate papilla**  
Each of the large taste buds (about 10) forming a lingual V at the back of the body of the tongue ensuring the taste function; they mostly perceive bitter flavors.

**body**  
Free mobile portion of the tongue composed mostly of mucous-covered muscles and bearing the taste buds.

**median lingual sulcus**  
Depression extending over the entire length of the body of the tongue and separating it into two symmetrical halves.

**apex**  
Mobile terminal end of the tongue; it mostly perceives sweet flavors.



**taste receptors**

The mucous membrane of the tongue is composed of small protuberances, lingual taste buds, distinguished by their particular sensitivity to one of the basic flavors: sweet, salty, sour, bitter.

**fungiform papilla**

Mushroom-shaped taste bud occurring in large numbers at the apex and on the sides of the tongue and having a taste function; it reacts mainly to sweet and salty flavors.

**foliate papilla**

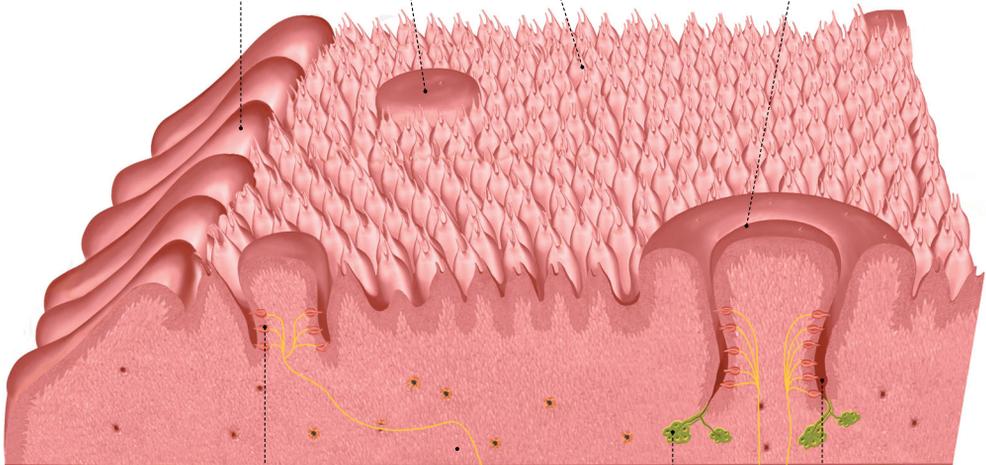
Taste bud located mainly on the posterior lateral edges of the tongue and having a taste function; it is most sensitive to sour flavors.

**filiform papilla**

Cone-shaped taste bud covering the rear of the tongue; its function is solely tactile. These taste buds give the tongue its velvety appearance.

**circumvallate papilla**

Each of the large taste buds (about 10) forming a lingual V at the back of the body of the tongue ensuring the taste function; they mostly perceive bitter flavors.



**taste bud**

Organ of taste formed of sensory cells that, in contact with saliva, detect flavors and transmit them to the brain in the form of nerve impulses.

**salivary gland**

Each of the three pairs of saliva-secreting organs responsible for moistening food so that the taste buds can perceive its taste.

**furrow**

Saliva-filled depression delimiting the lingual taste buds.

## sight

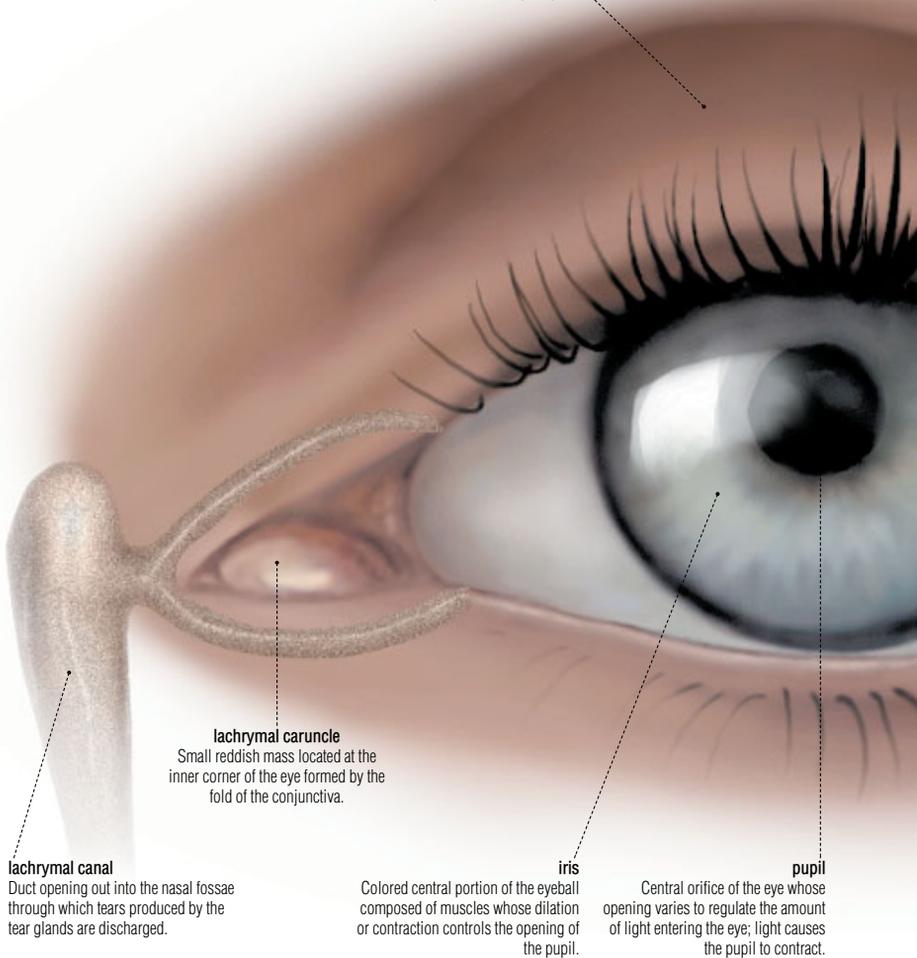
The human being possesses a highly developed visual sensitivity, far superior to that of the other senses.

**eye**

Organ of vision serving to perceive shapes, distances, colors and motion.

**upper eyelid**

Thin movable muscular membrane descending from the upper edge of the eye. The eyelids protect the eye, emit tears and discharge waste. Batting of the eyelashes is very frequent.

**lacrimal caruncle**

Small reddish mass located at the inner corner of the eye formed by the fold of the conjunctiva.

**lacrimal canal**

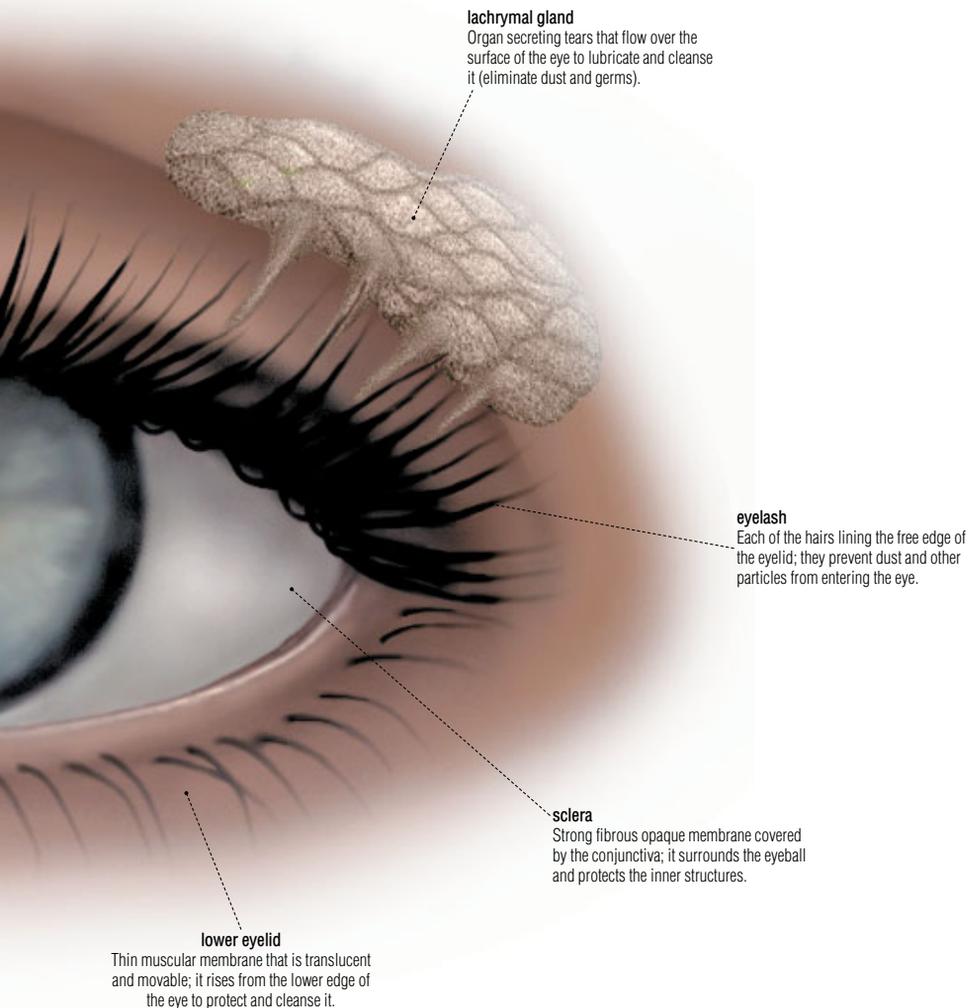
Duct opening out into the nasal fossae through which tears produced by the tear glands are discharged.

**iris**

Colored central portion of the eyeball composed of muscles whose dilation or contraction controls the opening of the pupil.

**pupil**

Central orifice of the eye whose opening varies to regulate the amount of light entering the eye; light causes the pupil to contract.

**lachrymal gland**

Organ secreting tears that flow over the surface of the eye to lubricate and cleanse it (eliminate dust and germs).

**eyelash**

Each of the hairs lining the free edge of the eyelid; they prevent dust and other particles from entering the eye.

**sclera**

Strong fibrous opaque membrane covered by the conjunctiva; it surrounds the eyeball and protects the inner structures.

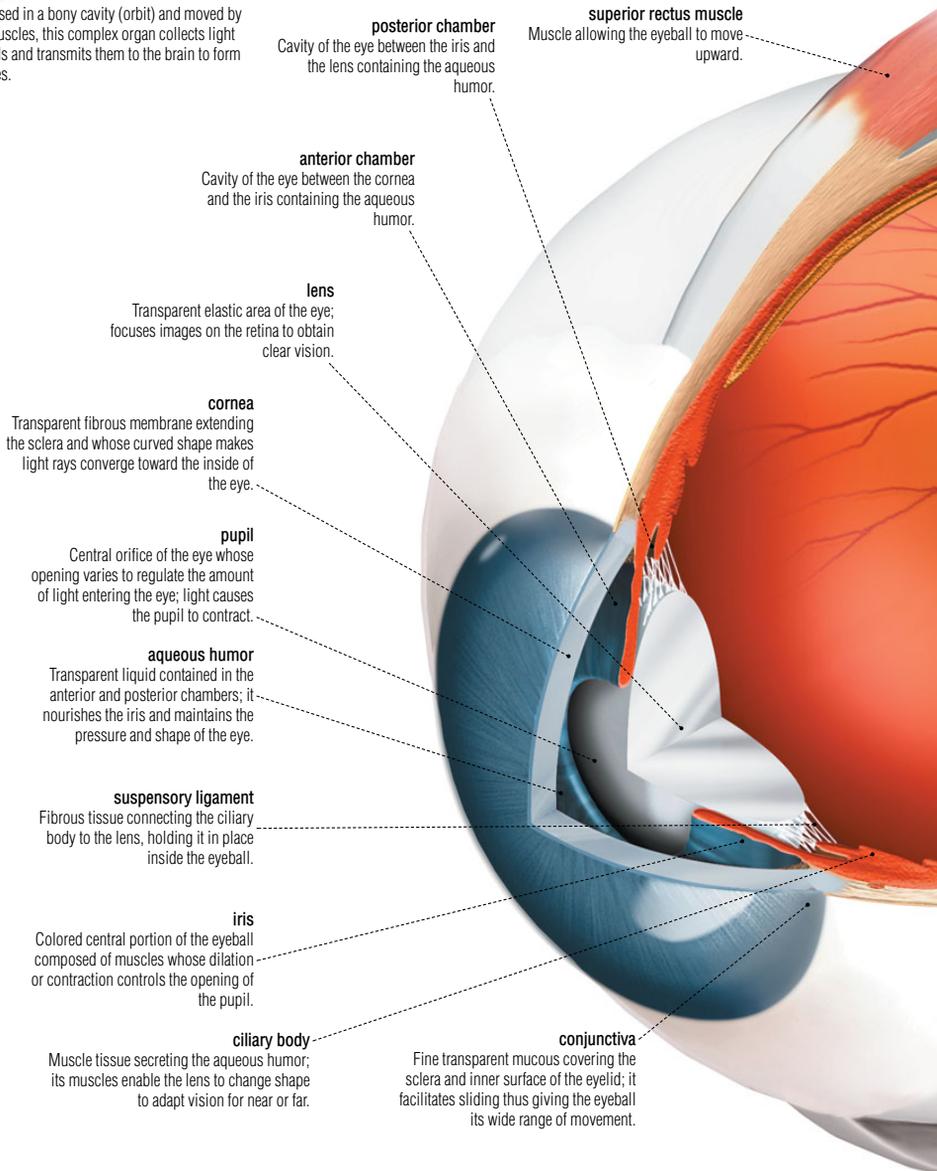
**lower eyelid**

Thin muscular membrane that is translucent and movable; it rises from the lower edge of the eye to protect and cleanse it.

sight

**eyeball**

Enclosed in a bony cavity (orbit) and moved by six muscles, this complex organ collects light signals and transmits them to the brain to form images.



**posterior chamber**  
Cavity of the eye between the iris and the lens containing the aqueous humor.

**superior rectus muscle**  
Muscle allowing the eyeball to move upward.

**anterior chamber**  
Cavity of the eye between the cornea and the iris containing the aqueous humor.

**lens**  
Transparent elastic area of the eye; focuses images on the retina to obtain clear vision.

**cornea**  
Transparent fibrous membrane extending the sclera and whose curved shape makes light rays converge toward the inside of the eye.

**pupil**  
Central orifice of the eye whose opening varies to regulate the amount of light entering the eye; light causes the pupil to contract.

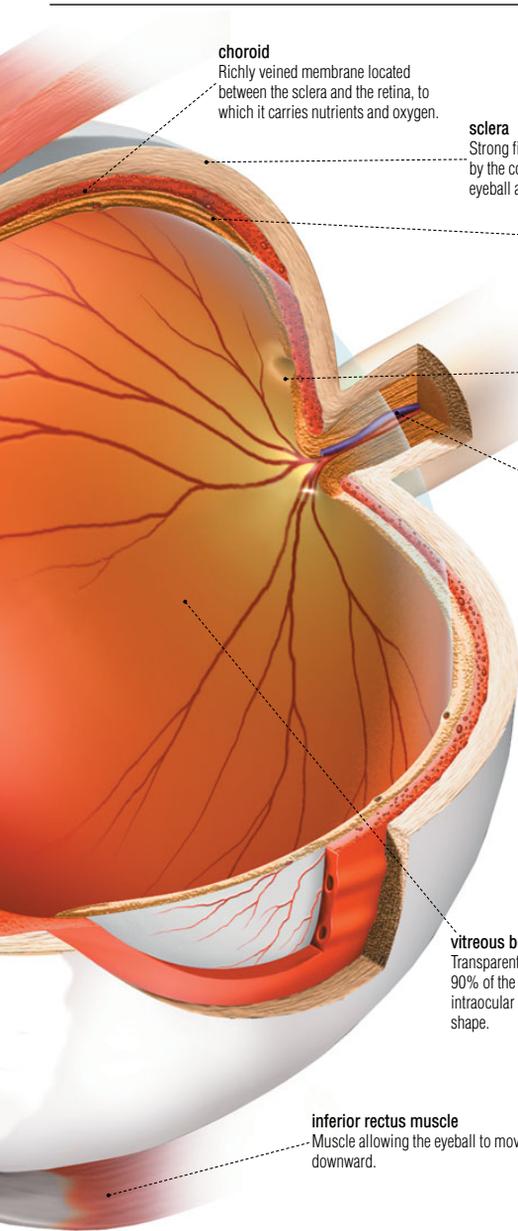
**aqueous humor**  
Transparent liquid contained in the anterior and posterior chambers; it nourishes the iris and maintains the pressure and shape of the eye.

**suspensory ligament**  
Fibrous tissue connecting the ciliary body to the lens, holding it in place inside the eyeball.

**iris**  
Colored central portion of the eyeball composed of muscles whose dilation or contraction controls the opening of the pupil.

**ciliary body**  
Muscle tissue secreting the aqueous humor; its muscles enable the lens to change shape to adapt vision for near or far.

**conjunctiva**  
Fine transparent mucous covering the sclera and inner surface of the eyelid; it facilitates sliding thus giving the eyeball its wide range of movement.



**choroid**  
Richly veined membrane located between the sclera and the retina, to which it carries nutrients and oxygen.

**sclera**  
Strong fibrous opaque membrane covered by the conjunctiva; it surrounds the eyeball and protects the inner structures.

**retina**  
Inner membrane at the back of the eye covered in light-sensitive nerve cells (photoreceptors); these transform light into an electrical impulse that is carried to the optic nerve.

**macula**  
Area of the retina where the cones are concentrated; it plays an essential role in day vision and the perception of colors.

**optic nerve**  
Nerve formed by the juncture of the nerve fibers of the retina; it carries visual information to the brain, where it is interpreted.

**vitreous body**  
Transparent gelatinous mass (almost 90% of the eye); it maintains constant intraocular pressure so the eye keeps its shape.

**inferior rectus muscle**  
Muscle allowing the eyeball to move downward.

**photoreceptors**

Nerve cells of the retina that convert light into nerve impulses; these are transmitted to the brain, which decodes them and forms an image.

**cone**

Photoreceptor active in full light and responsible for perception of specific colors. There are three types: red-yellow, green and blue-violet.



**rod**

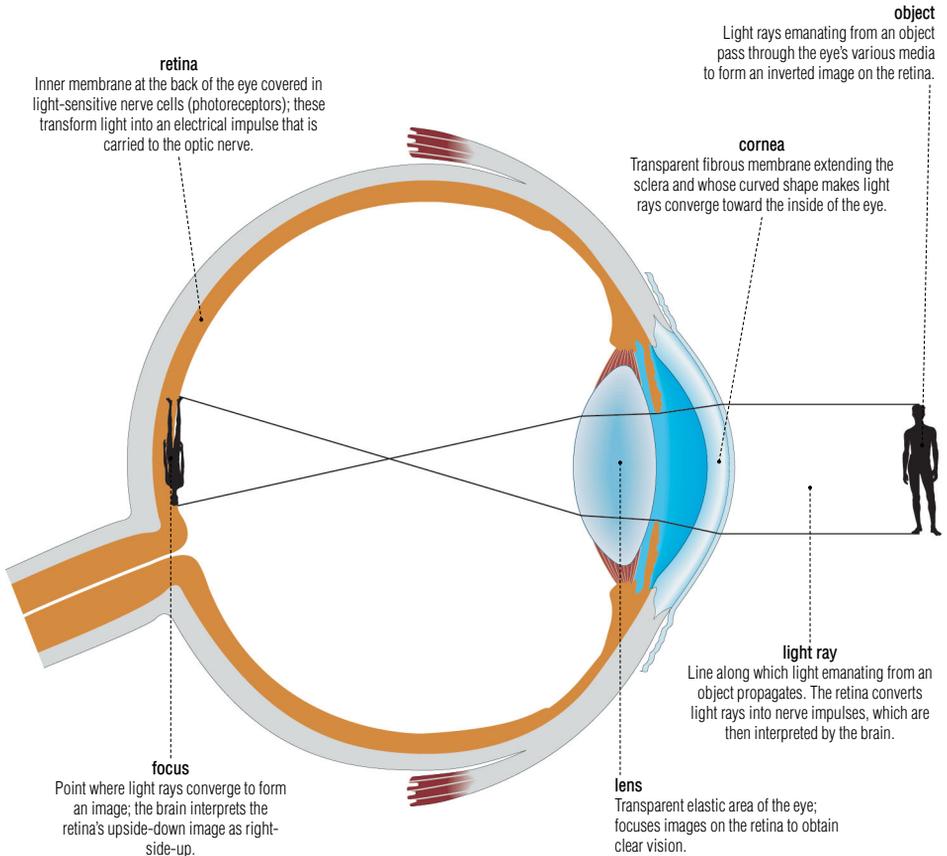
Photoreceptor active in dim light and responsible for night vision (in black and white).



## sight

**normal vision**

The image of an object is formed on the retina after passing through the lens, which, depending on the distance of the object, expands or contracts to give a sharp image.



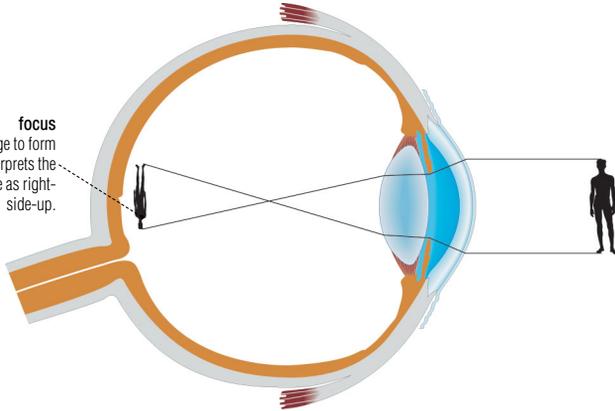
**vision defects**

Images do not form on the retina, thus resulting in blurry vision; such defects are corrected by eyeglasses, contact lenses or even surgery.

**myopia**

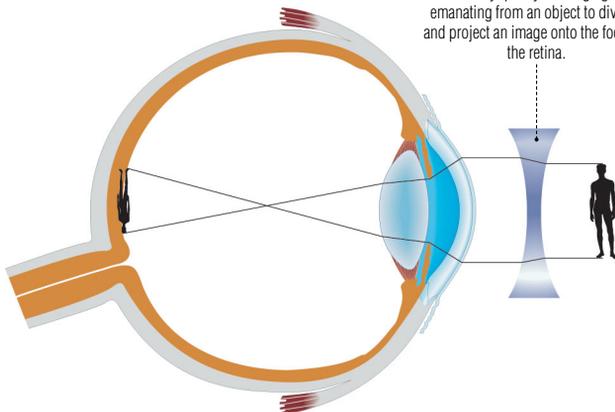
The image of a distant object is formed in front of the retina due to a defect in the light rays' convergence. This makes distant objects hard to see.

**focus**  
Point where light rays converge to form an image; the brain interprets the retina's upside-down image as right-side-up.



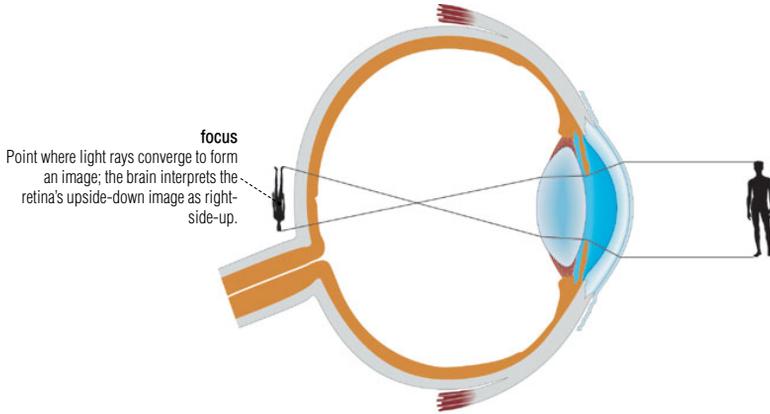
**concave lens**

Corrects myopia by causing light rays emanating from an object to diverge and project an image onto the focus of the retina.

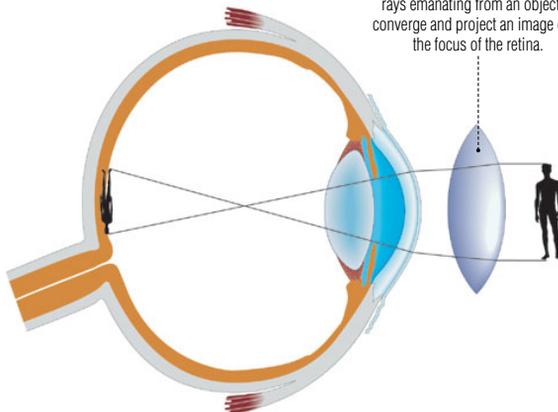


**hyperopia**

The image of an object is formed behind the retina due to a defect in the light rays' convergence as they pass through the lens. This makes near objects hard to see.

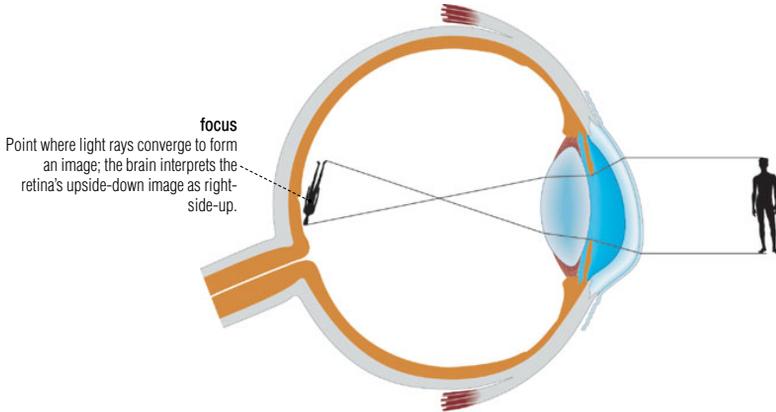


**convex lens**  
Corrects hyperopia by causing light rays emanating from an object to converge and project an image onto the focus of the retina.

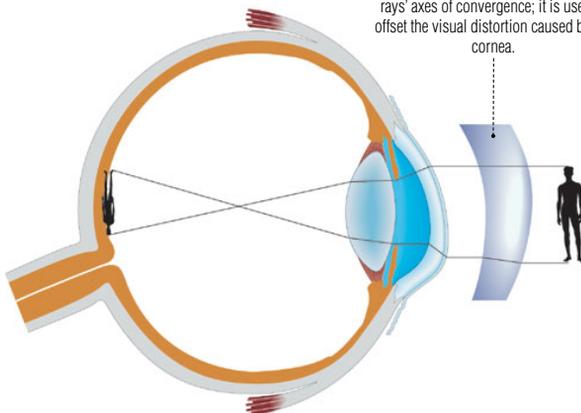


**astigmatism**

Usually caused by a curvature of the cornea, it is manifested by blurred vision when viewing both near and far objects, depending on various axes.

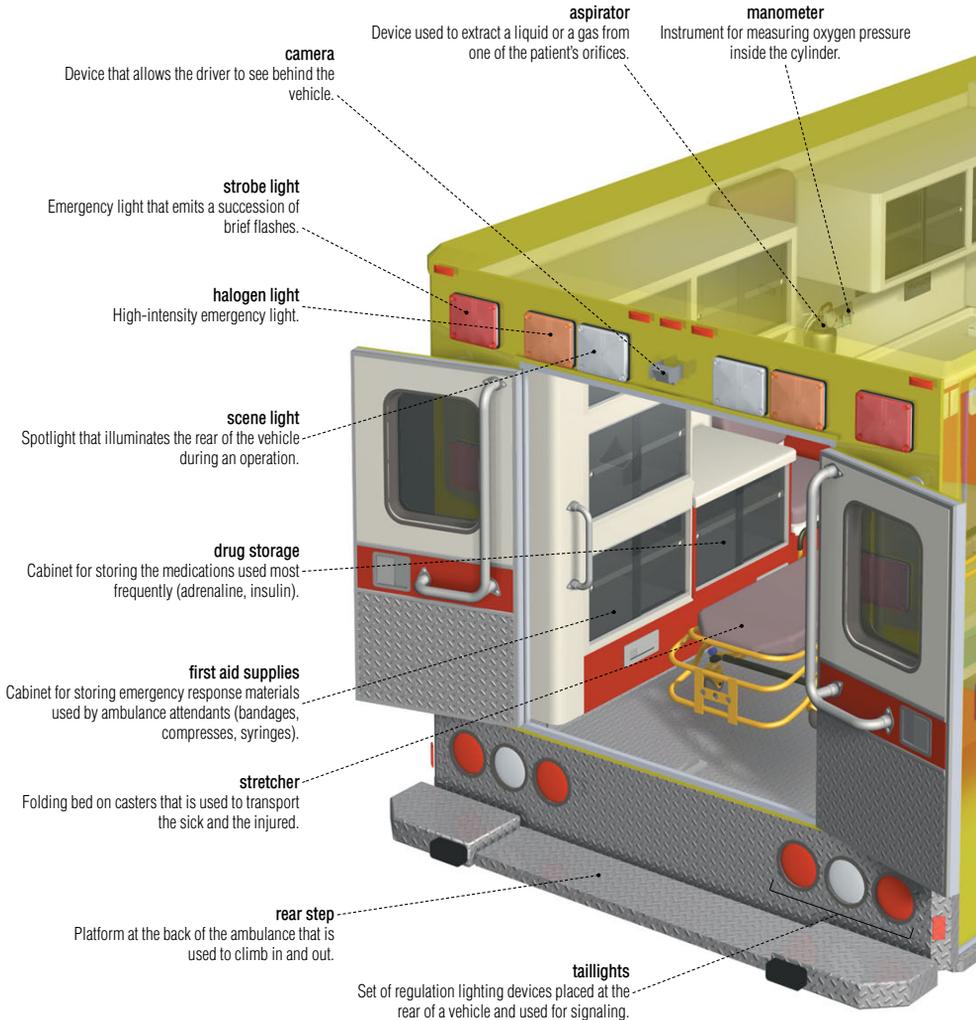
**toric lens**

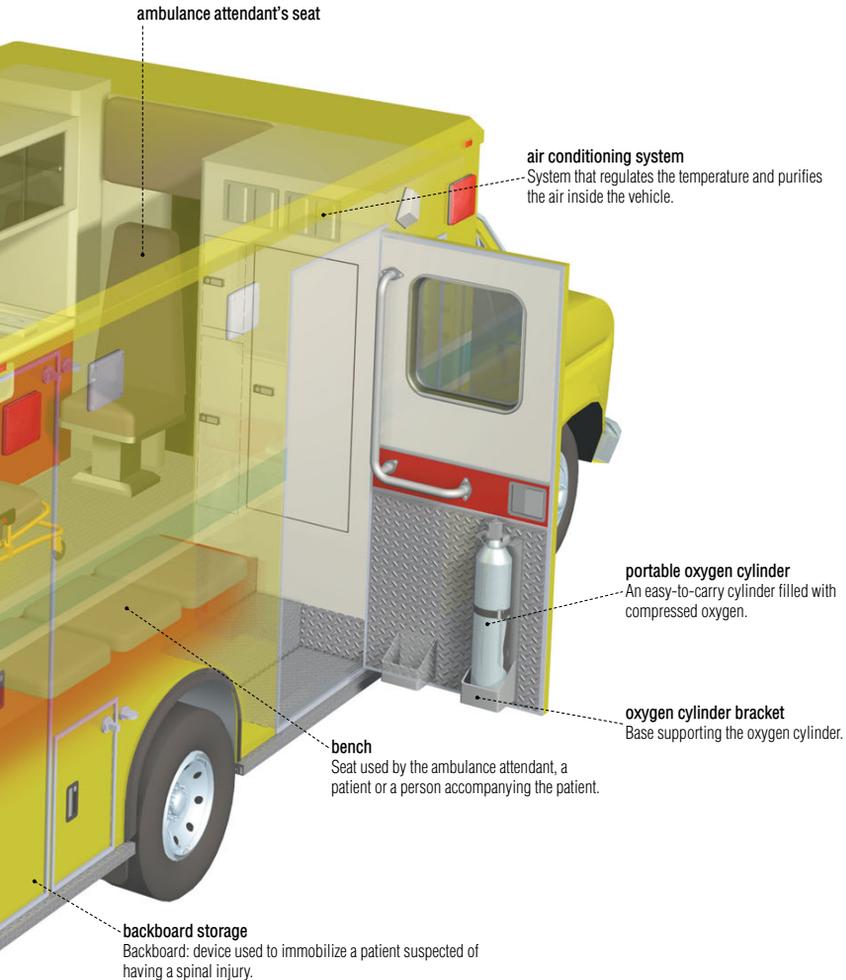
Has various powers depending on the rays' axes of convergence; it is used to offset the visual distortion caused by the cornea.



## ambulance

Vehicle designed to transport the sick and injured to hospital and to administer first aid.





# first aid equipment

The instruments and equipment used to transport the sick and the injured and to administer first aid.



### oxygen mask

Device placed over the nose and mouth to help breathing by means of oxygen insufflation.



### oropharyngeal airway

Hollow tube inserted into the oral portion of the pharynx (oropharynx) to prevent the tongue from being swallowed and to allow air to pass.

### resuscitator

Portable device used to ventilate the lungs when breathing is inadequate.



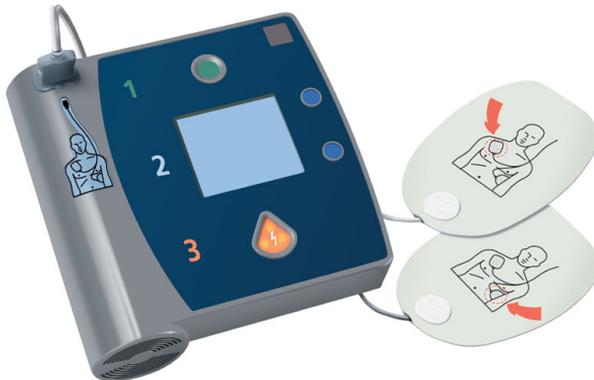
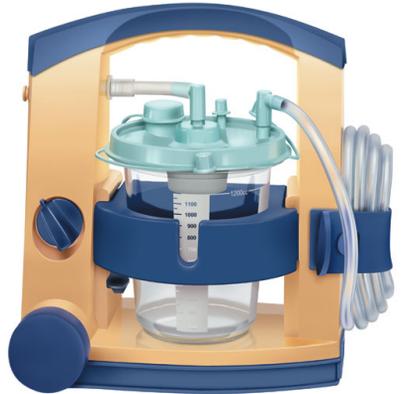
**mask**.....  
Part of the resuscitator applied to a person's nose and mouth.

**cervical collar**

Orthosis placed around the neck to partially immobilize the cervical spine.

**aspirator**

Device used to extract a liquid or a gas from one of the patient's orifices.

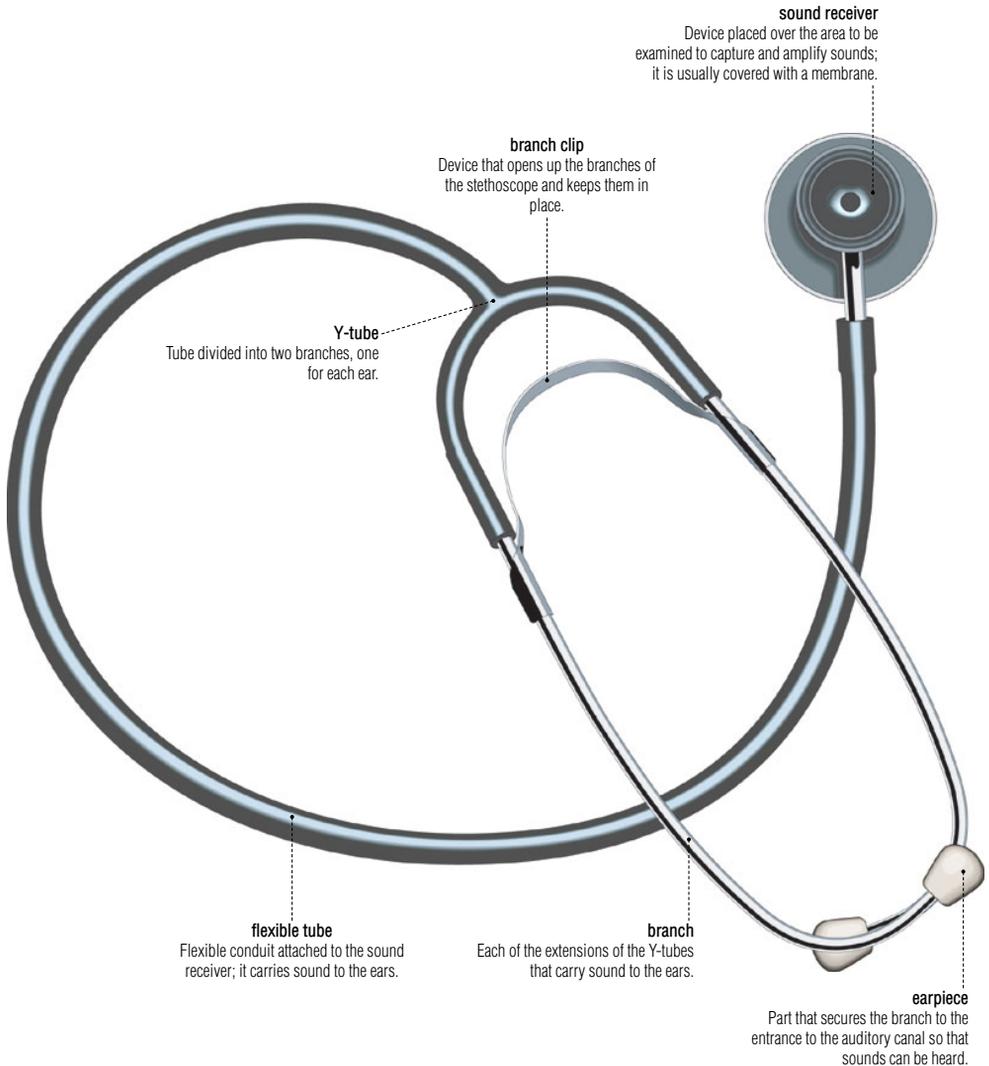
**defibrillator**

Device that releases a brief but powerful electric charge to restore normal heart rhythm after cardiac arrest.

## first aid equipment

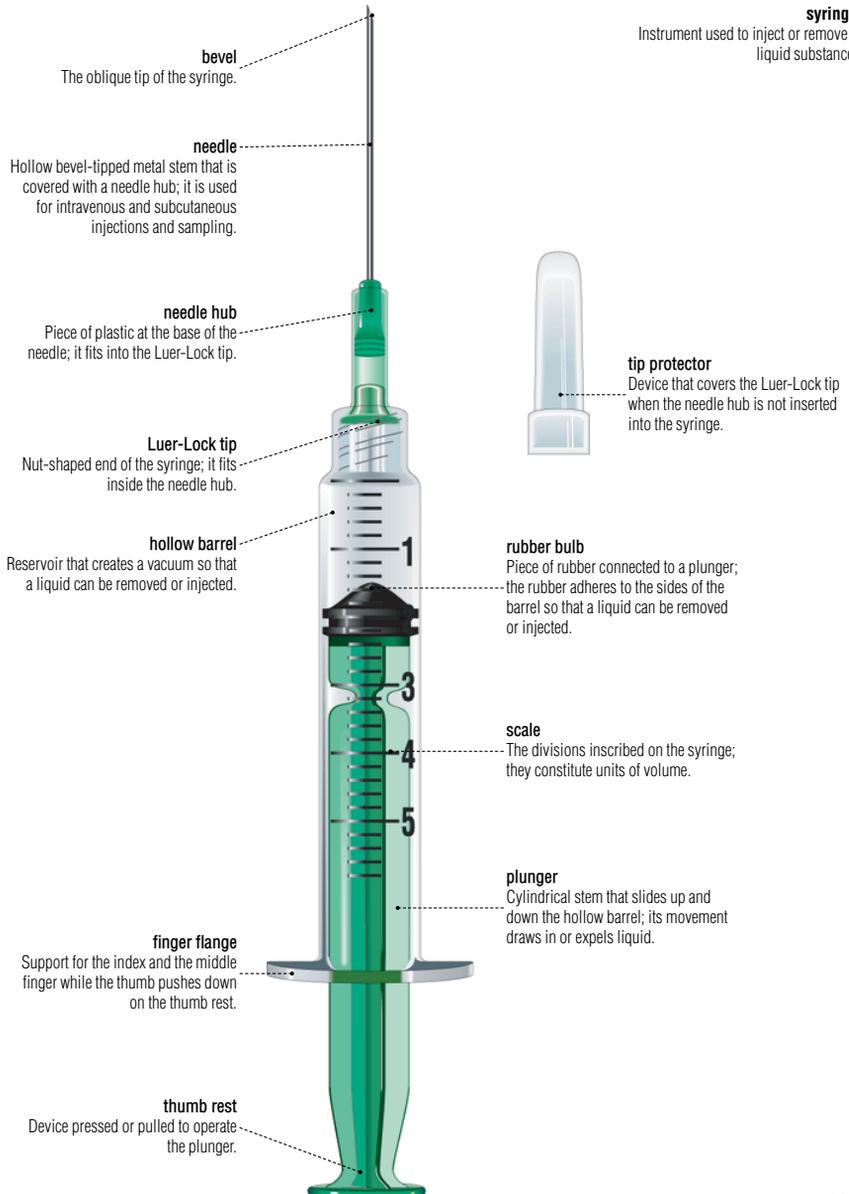
**stethoscope**

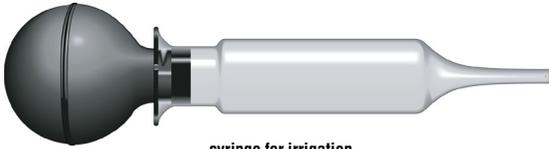
Instrument that captures and amplifies cardiac and breathing sounds.



**syringe**

Instrument used to inject or remove a liquid substance.





**syringe for irrigation**

High-volume syringe used to clean an orifice by inserting a medicated solution.



**latex glove**

Thin rubber glove worn by medical personnel to prevent infection or contagion.



**stretcher**

Cloth-covered wooden or metal frame used to transport the sick and the injured.

**cot**

Folding bed on casters that is used to transport the sick and the injured.

**frame**

Metal structure that supports the mattress above its feet.

**reclining back**

The part of the frame that is raised so that the patient can lean back.

**mattress**

Large padded cushion on which the patient lies.

**pulling ring**

Device that is pulled to move the cot.

**telescopic leg**

Extensible rods that stabilize the cot and regulate its height.

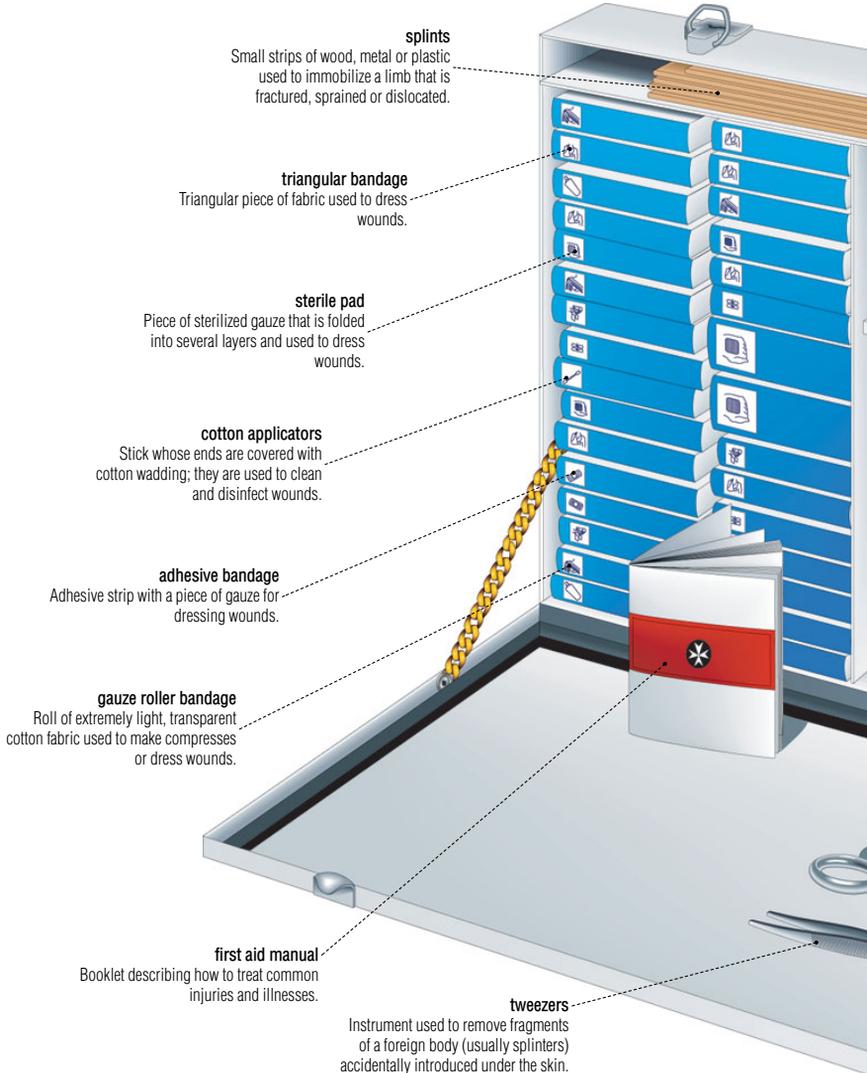
**hook**

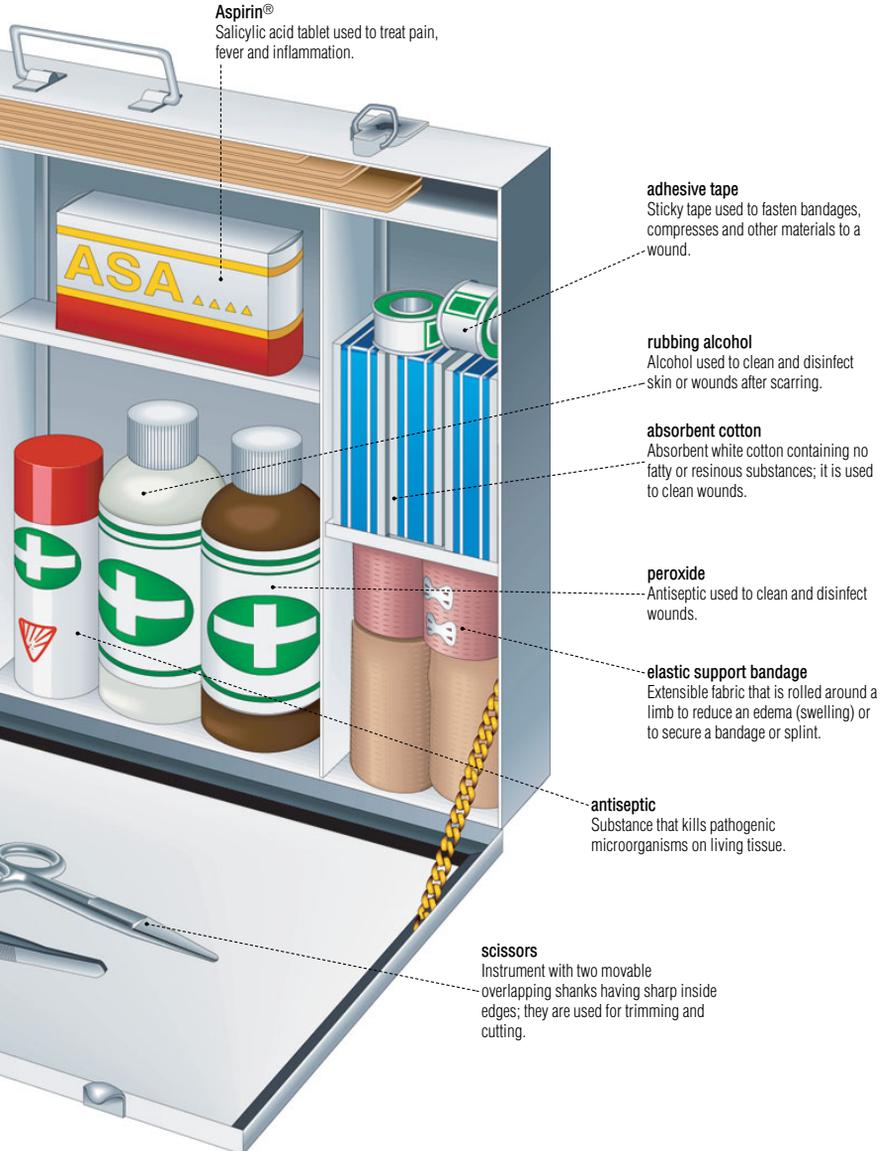
Part used to hang equipment.



## first aid kit

Box that contains the materials required to administer first aid, including bandages, medication and instruments.





## clinical thermometers

Instruments that measure body temperature; they can be auricular, oral, rectal, etc.

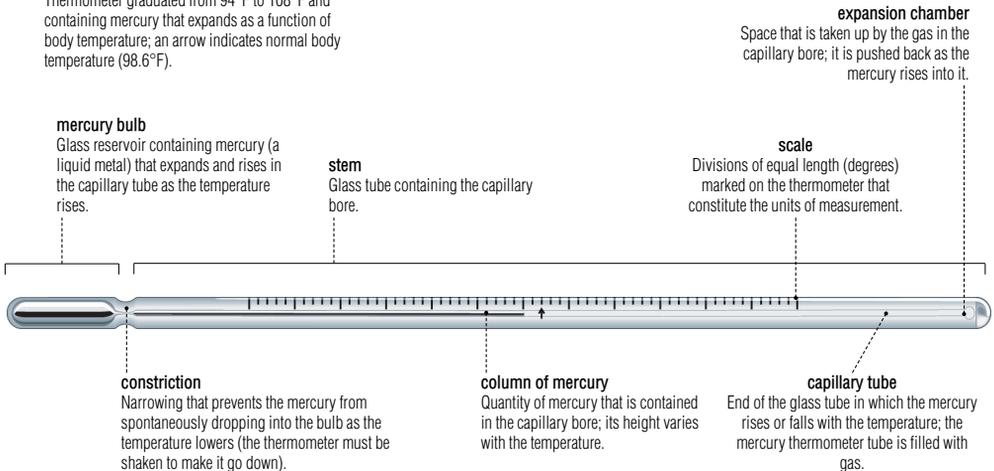
### digital thermometer

Thermometer that indicates the temperature in digits on a liquid crystal display screen.



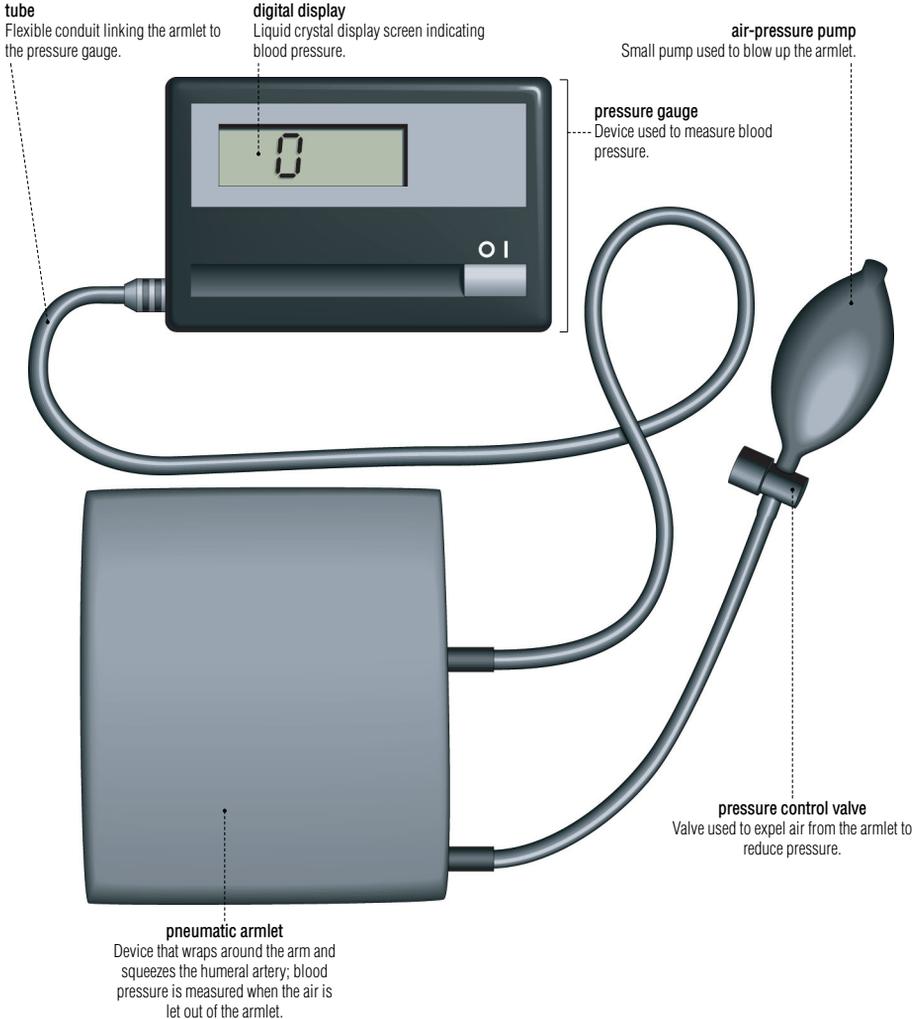
### mercury thermometer

Thermometer graduated from 94°F to 108°F and containing mercury that expands as a function of body temperature; an arrow indicates normal body temperature (98.6°F).



## blood pressure monitor

Device composed of an armlet and a pressure gauge; it is used to measure diastolic (heart dilatation) and systolic (heart contraction) pressure.



# hospital

Establishment where the sick are given medical and surgical care and where babies are born.

## emergency

Department that receives the sick and the injured who require immediate care.

### observation room

Room in which a patient is monitored for a specific period to confirm or rule out a diagnosis.

### pharmacy

Room used to store medication available to medical personnel.

### nurses' station (major emergency)

Work area for nurses who care for seriously ill patients.

### isolation room

Room in which contagious patients or patients vulnerable to infection are treated to avoid the transmission of disease.

### psychiatric observation room

Room in which a patient is observed for a specific period to determine if a psychiatric referral is necessary.

### resuscitation room

Room designed to treat sick or wounded patients whose vital functions have failed.

### mobile X-ray unit

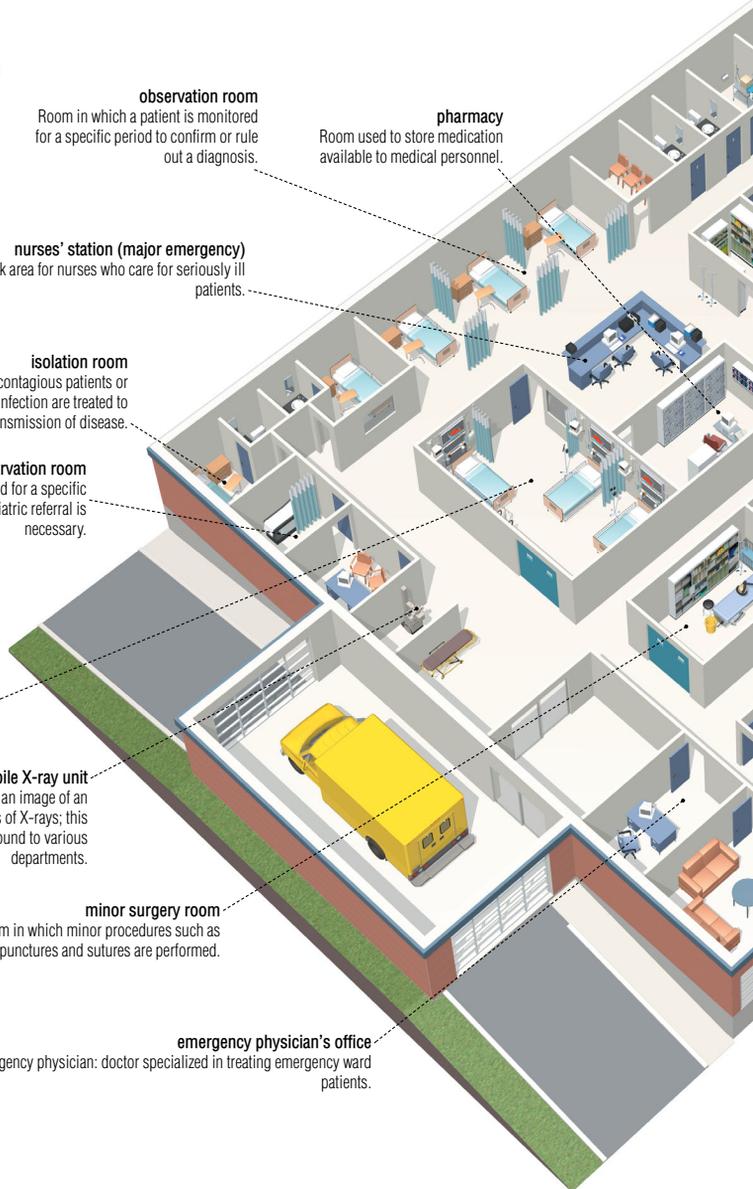
Instrument that captures an image of an internal body part by means of X-rays; this mobile unit moves around to various departments.

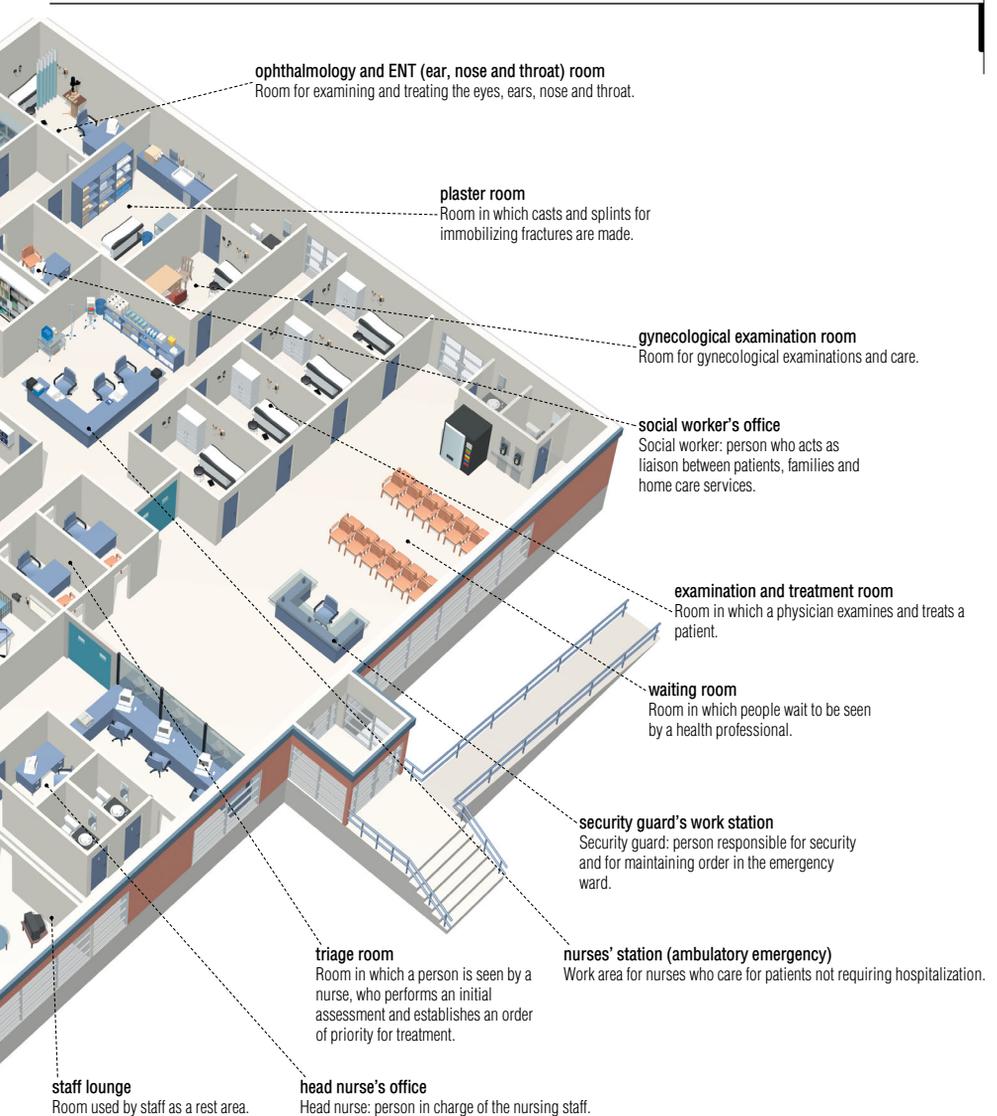
### minor surgery room

Room in which minor procedures such as punctures and sutures are performed.

### emergency physician's office

Emergency physician: doctor specialized in treating emergency ward patients.

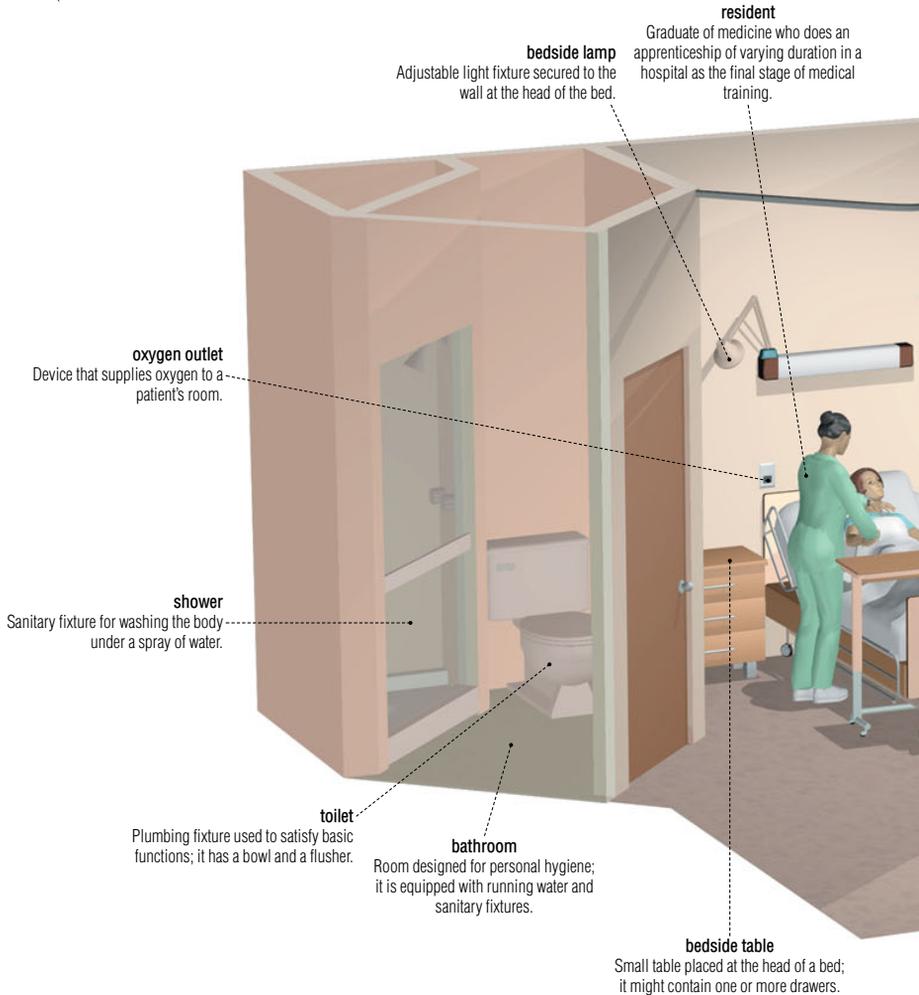




## hospital

**patient room**

Room for hospitalized patients; it can be private (one bed), semiprivate (two beds) or common (more than two beds).



**intravenous stand**

Long metal rod with a hook that is supported by a base with casters; it is used to suspend a bag containing a solution that is slowly and continuously injected into the patient.

**physician**

Holder of a degree in medicine, the physician establishes the diagnosis and prescribes treatment and medication.

**patient**

Person who undergoes treatment, a medical examination or a surgical procedure.

**overbed table**

Table with casters and a tray that slides over the bed.

**hospital bed**

Bed with an articulated base, casters and bars.

**nurse**

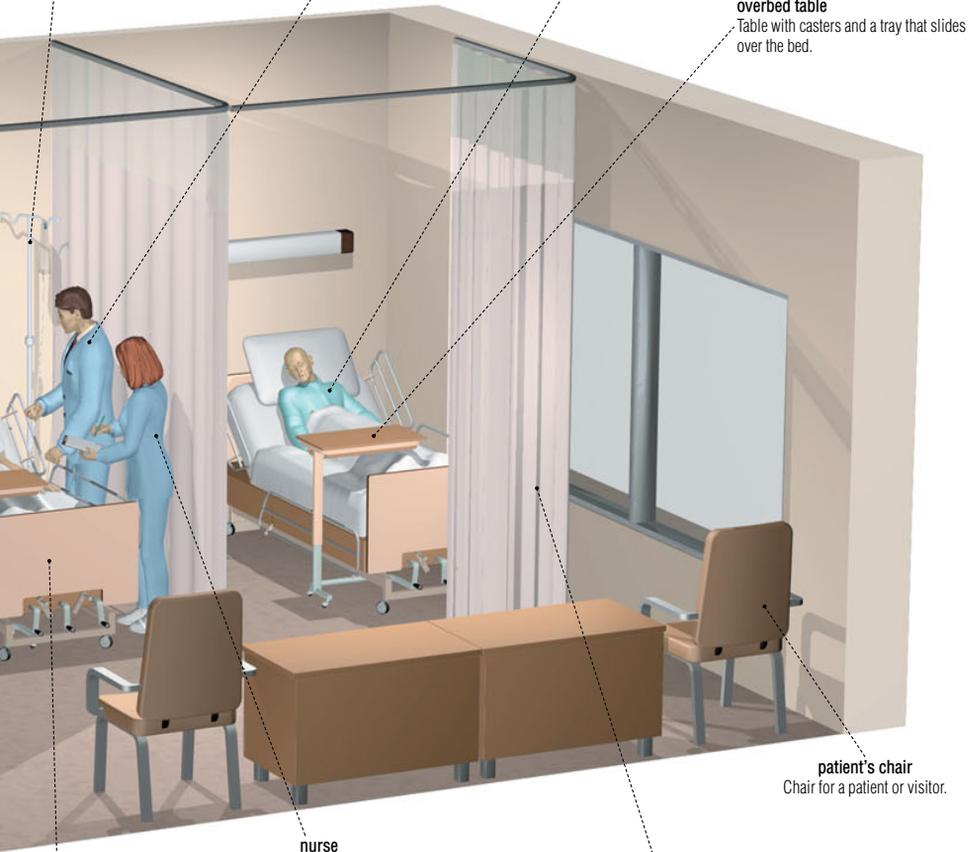
Holder of a degree in nursing, the nurse treats patients under the direction of the physician.

**privacy curtain**

Curtain used to separate one patient's area from another's or to provide privacy.

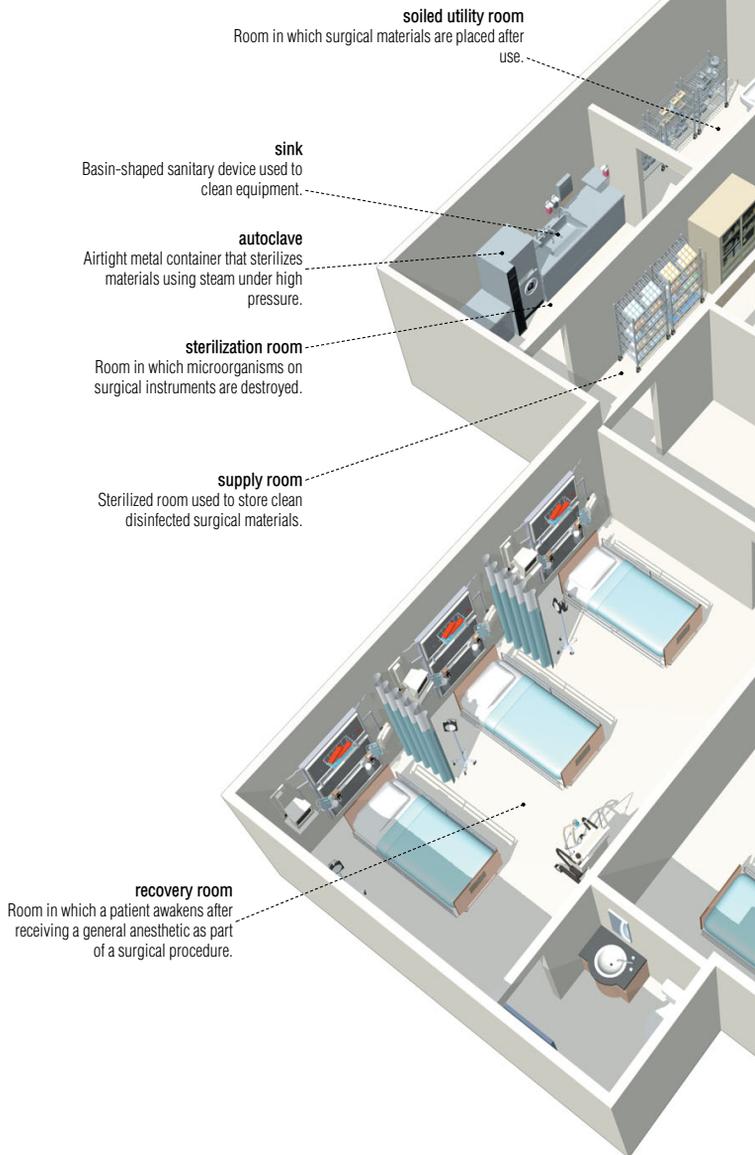
**patient's chair**

Chair for a patient or visitor.



**operating suite**

The rooms and equipment used for surgical procedures.

**soiled utility room**

Room in which surgical materials are placed after use.

**sink**

Basin-shaped sanitary device used to clean equipment.

**autoclave**

Airtight metal container that sterilizes materials using steam under high pressure.

**sterilization room**

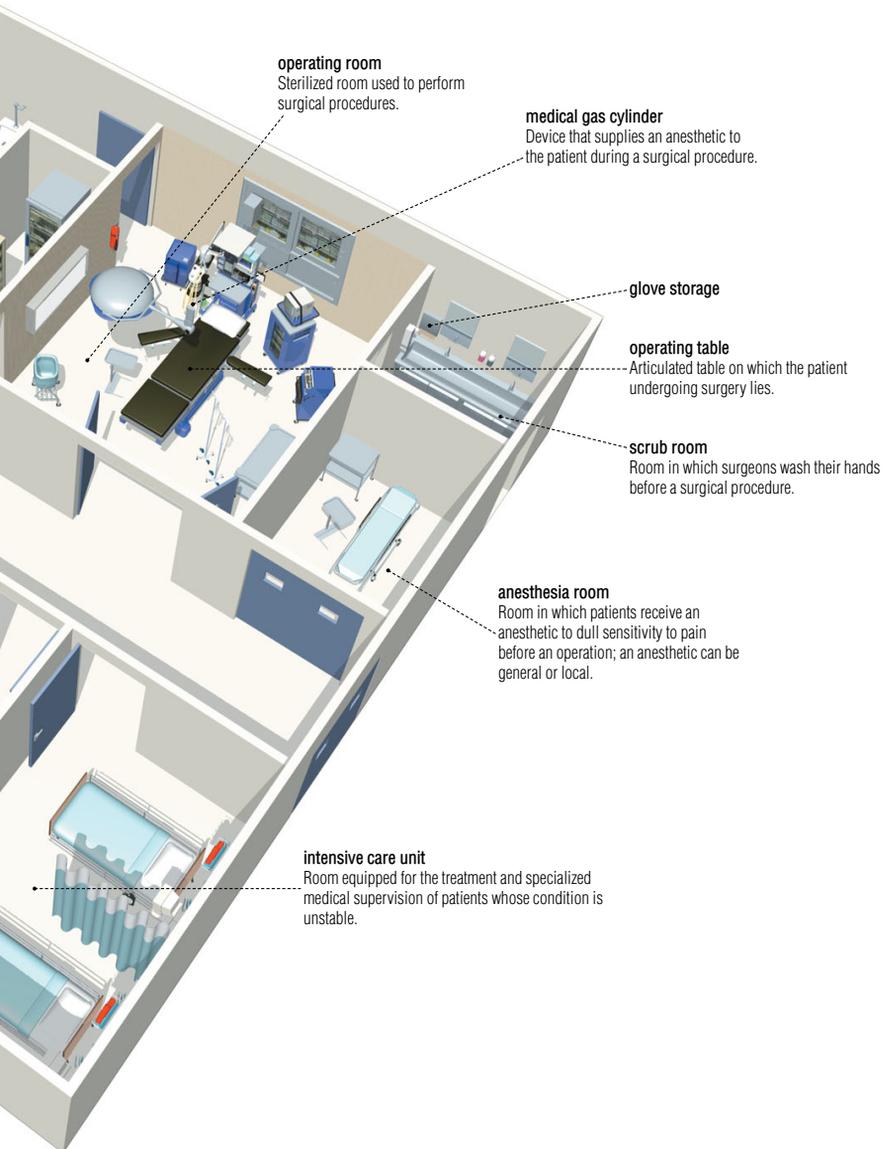
Room in which microorganisms on surgical instruments are destroyed.

**supply room**

Sterilized room used to store clean disinfected surgical materials.

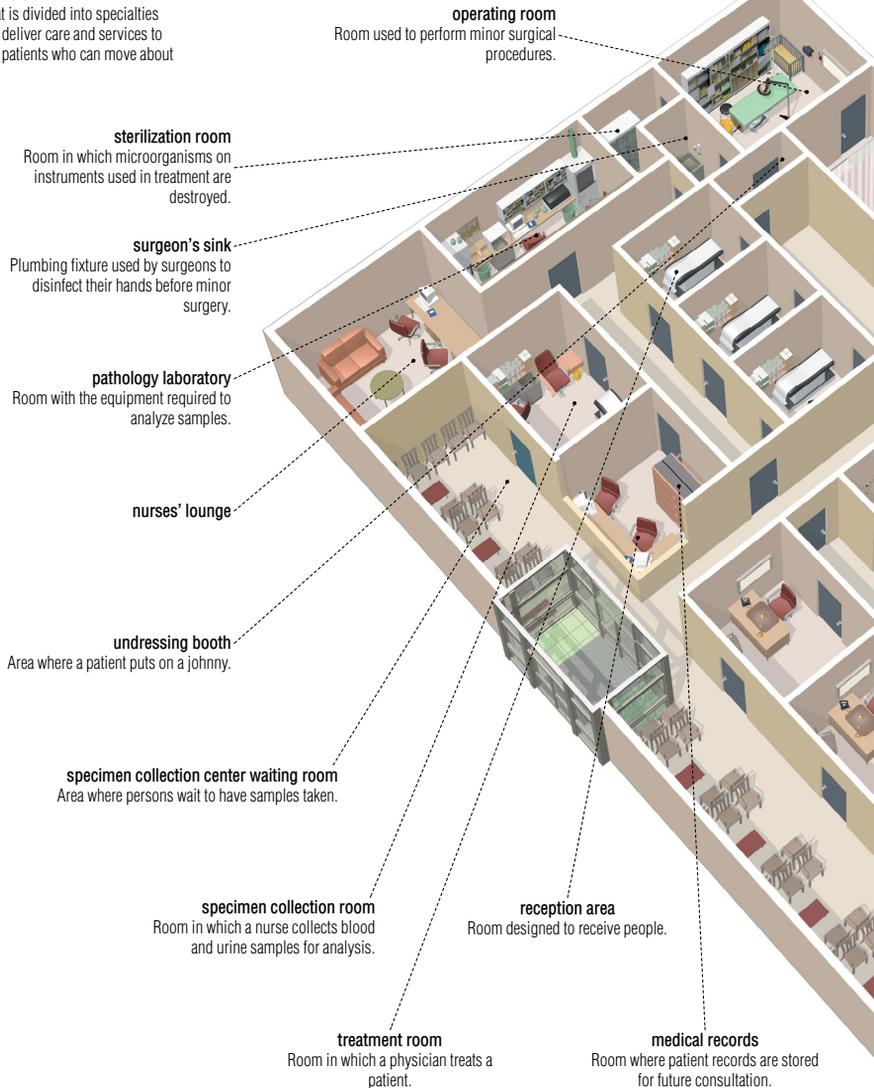
**recovery room**

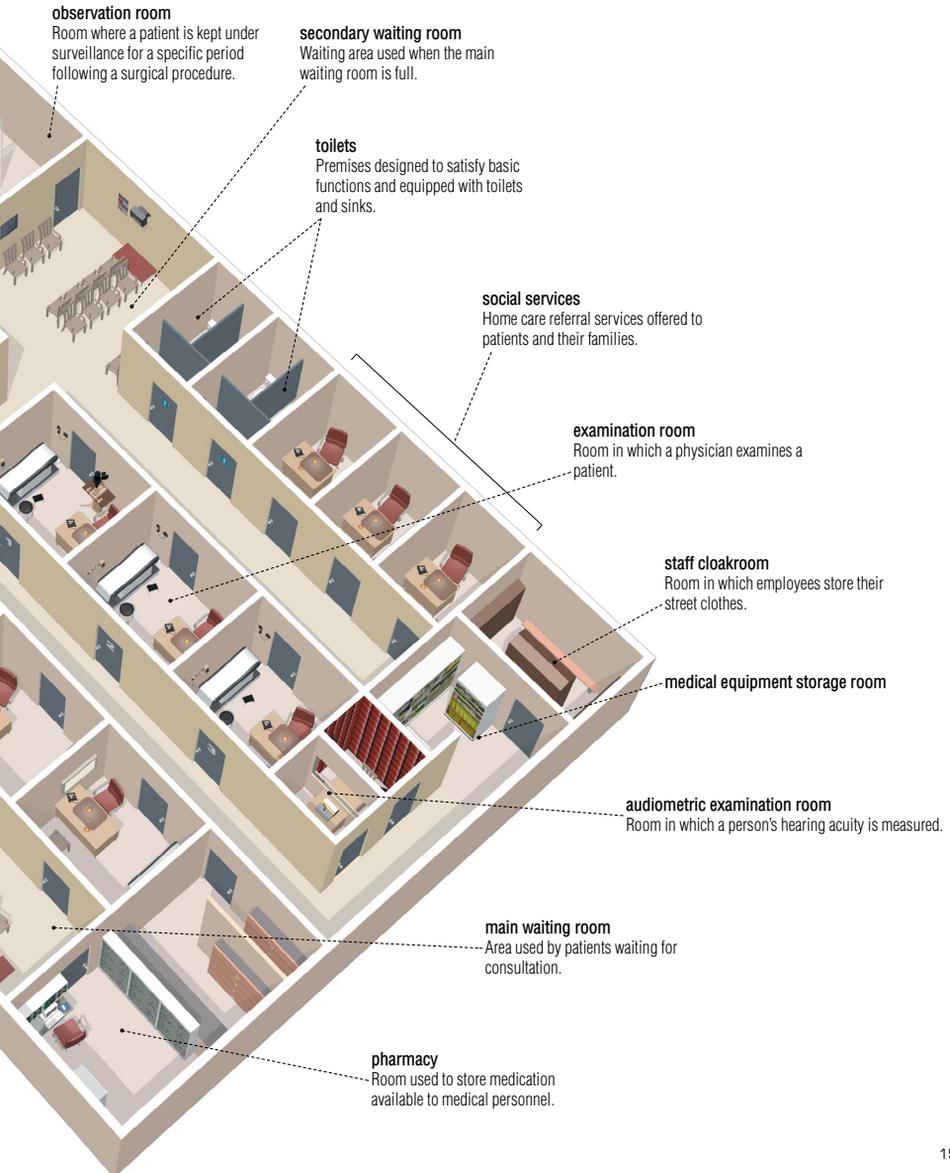
Room in which a patient awakens after receiving a general anesthetic as part of a surgical procedure.



**ambulatory care unit**

Hospital unit that is divided into specialties and designed to deliver care and services to nonhospitalized patients who can move about on their own.





## walking aids

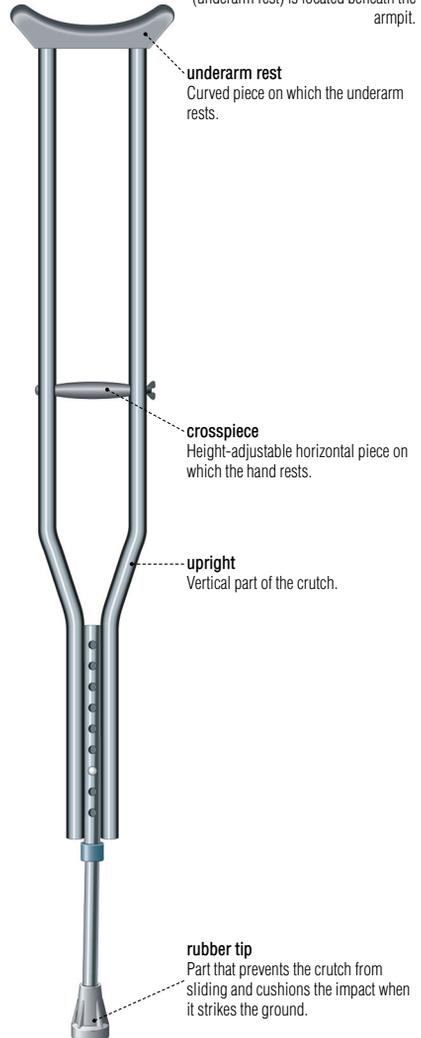
Weight-bearing devices used to help a person move about.

**forearm crutch**

Crutch whose weight-bearing point (forearm support) is located on the inside of the forearm.

**underarm crutch**

Crutch whose weight-bearing point (underarm rest) is located beneath the armpit.



**walking stick**

Weight-bearing stick with a curved handle.

**English cane**

Weight-bearing device with a straight handle.

**ortho-cane**

Rod with a handle designed to facilitate the use of the cane.

**quad cane**

Cane with a four-legged base.

**walker**

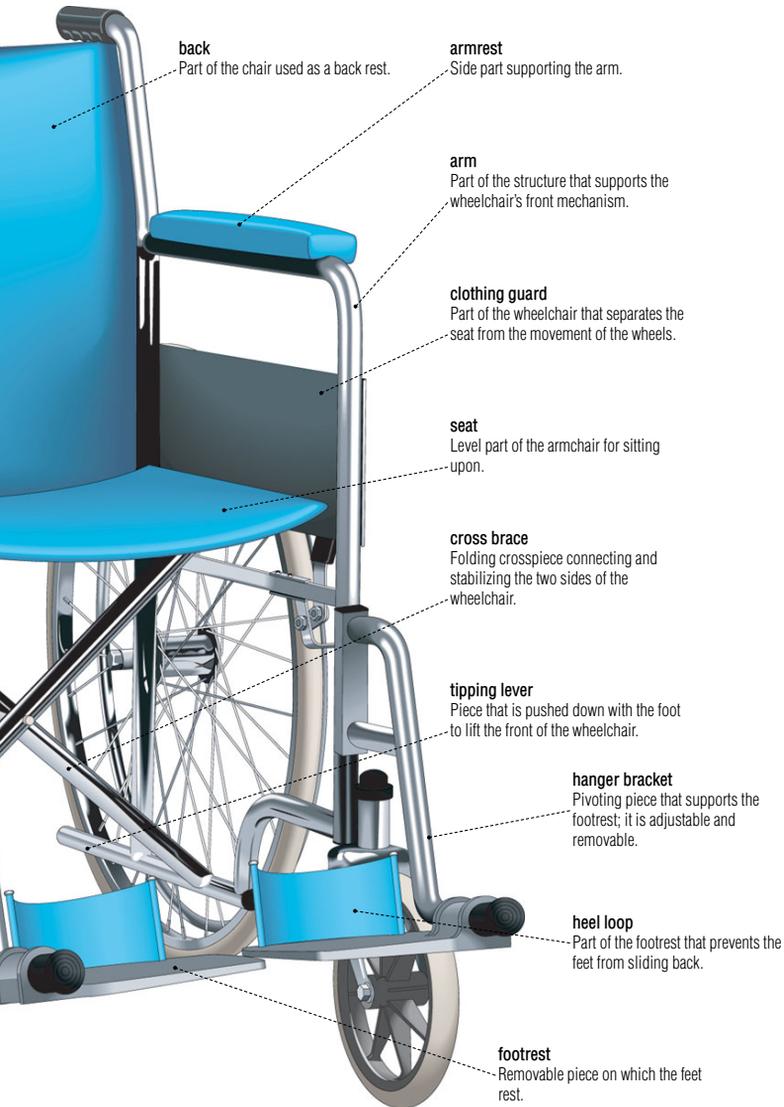
Support that slides or is lifted to help people who are too weak to walk unaided.



## wheelchair

Chair with arms and a back that is mounted on wheels; it enables a person who has difficulty walking to move about.





## forms of medications

The various forms of medications that are commercially available.

**capsule**

Small water-soluble pill with two sides that fit together; it is filled with a medication or a pharmaceutical product.

**gelatin capsule**

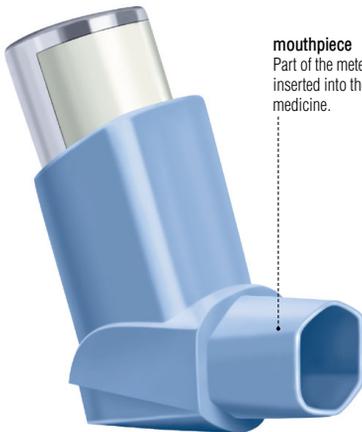
Receptacle filled with gelatin that contains a dose of medication or a pharmaceutical product.

**tablet**

Pill made of compressed powder that contains a dose of medication or a pharmaceutical product.

**vial**

Bulging glass tube sealed at its ends; it contains a specific dose of medication or a pharmaceutical product in liquid form.

**metered dose inhaler**

Aerosol device that releases a specific dose of medication into the respiratory tract; it is used mainly to treat asthma.

**mouthpiece**

Part of the metered dose inhaler that is inserted into the mouth to absorb the medicine.

**cap**

Piece that covers the mouthpiece when the metered dose inhaler is not in use.

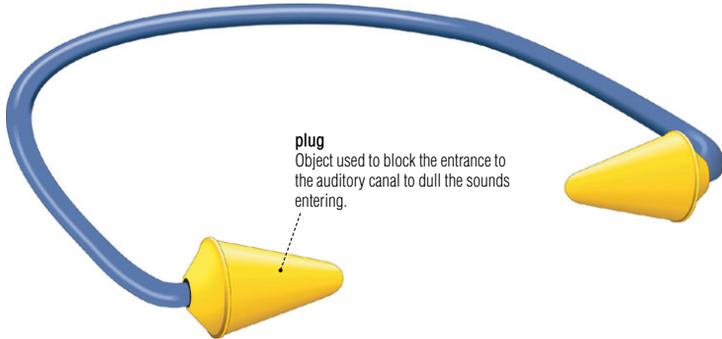
**cough syrup**

Flavored solution containing a medication that suppresses the cough reflex.

Devices that reduce workplace noise and noise caused by power tools.

**earplugs**

Device with plugs that are secured to the entrance of the auditory canal by a headband.

**plug**

Object used to block the entrance to the auditory canal to dull the sounds entering.

**headband**  
Flexible piece that keeps the earmuffs in place.

**safety earmuffs**

Pair of rigid shells that are connected by a headband and contain soft foam cushions.

**foam cushion**

Soft material that fits around the ears to make the headband more comfortable.

## eye protection

Safety goggles that protect the eyes from impact, flying objects and heat.

**safety glasses**

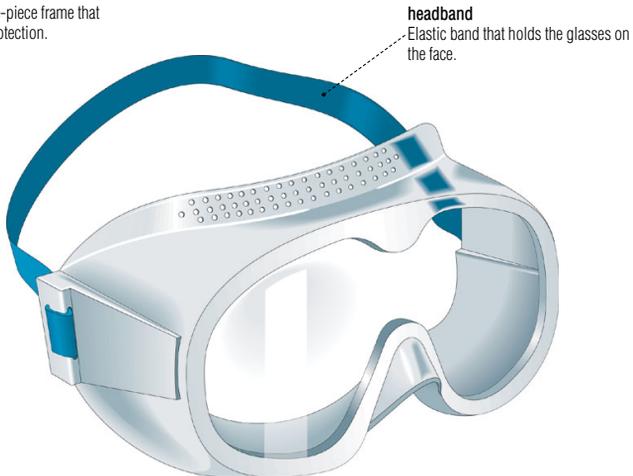
Glasses that consist of plastic lenses attached to a frame with temples; they come with or without side protection.

**temple**

Articulated stem whose end curls behind the ears to keep the lenses in front of the eyes.

**safety goggles**

Watertight glasses with a one-piece frame that provide front and side eye protection.

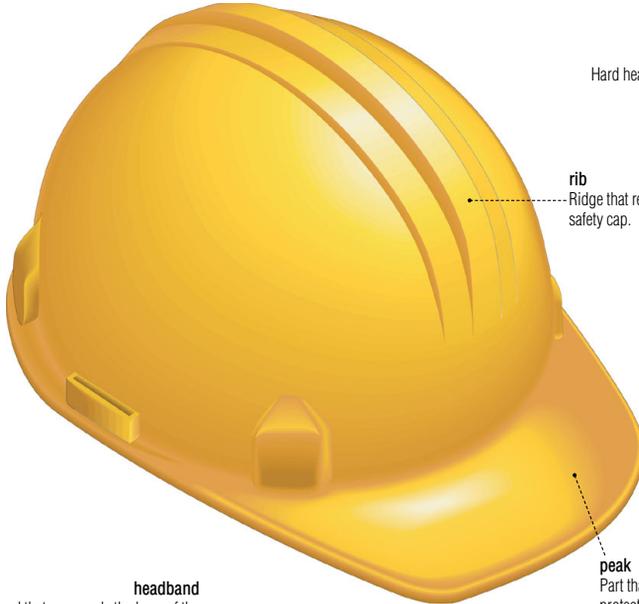
**headband**

Elastic band that holds the glasses on the face.

Safety helmet that protects against falling objects and impact.

**safety cap**

Hard headgear that protects the head.

**rib**

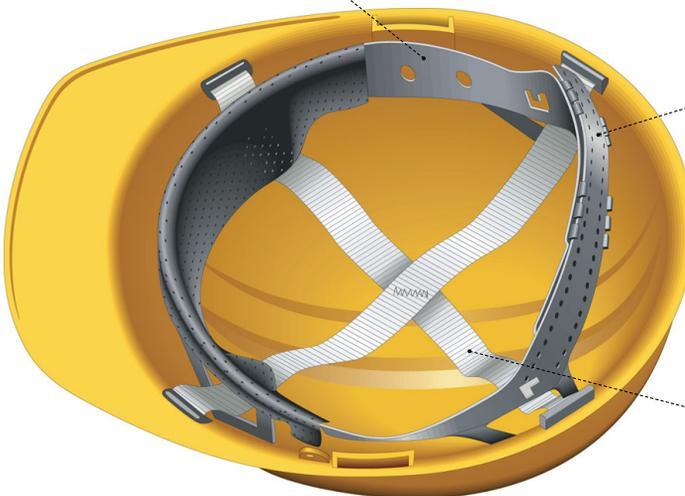
Ridge that reinforces the top of the safety cap.

**peak**

Part that juts out over the eyes to protect them.

**headband**

Band that surrounds the base of the skull to keep the cap in place.

**neck strap**

Strap that tightens around the nape to keep the safety cap in place.

**suspension band**

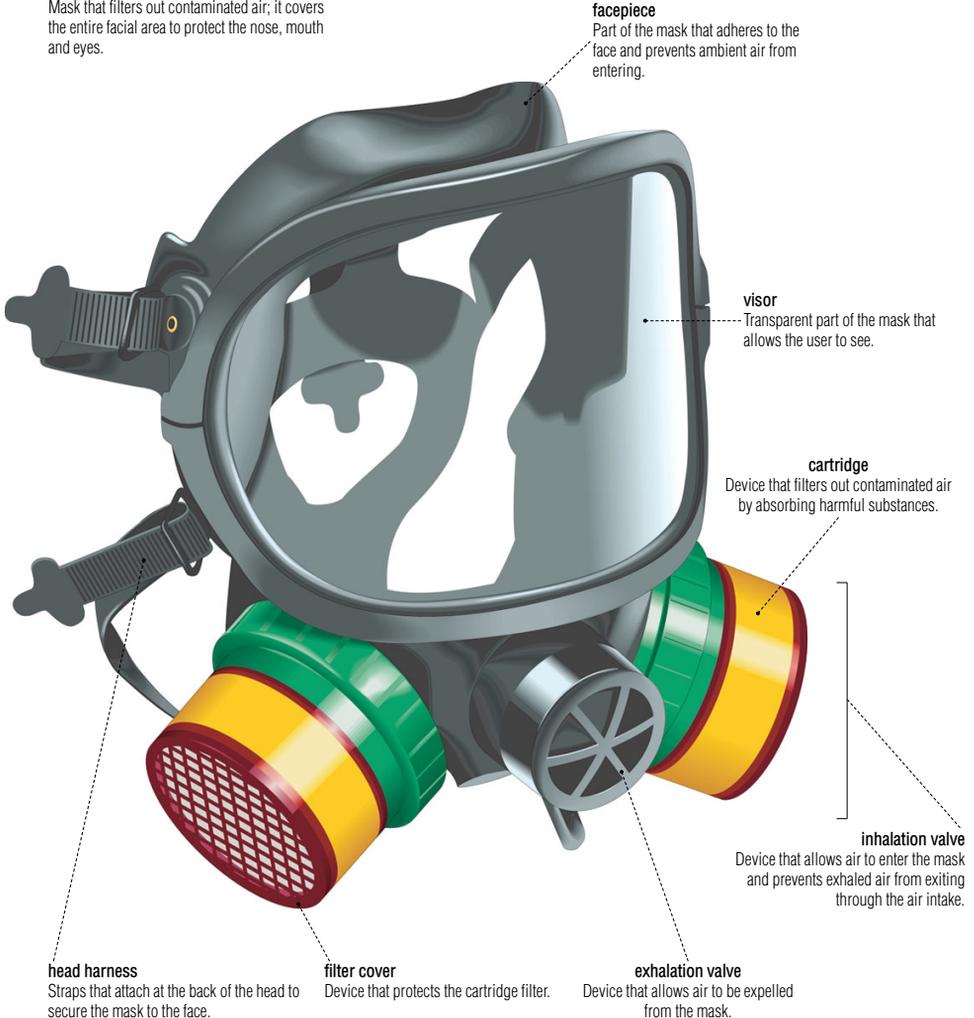
Belt on the inner top of the cap that is made of resistant fabric to cushion the impact of blows to the head.

## respiratory system protection

Mask used to protect the respiratory tract from elements such as polluted air, dust, smoke and volatile chemicals.

**respirator**

Mask that filters out contaminated air; it covers the entire facial area to protect the nose, mouth and eyes.

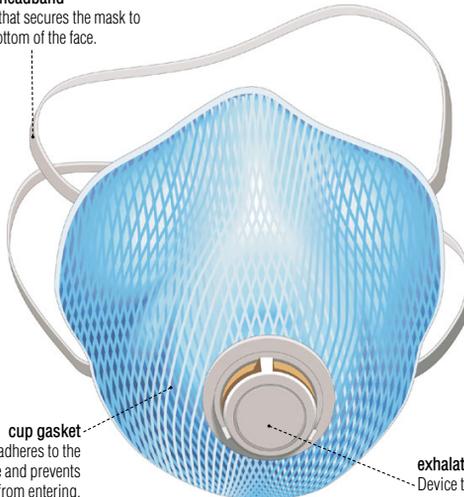


**operating mask**

Mask made of flexible fabric that covers the mouth and nose to impede transmission of micro-organisms.

**headband**

Elastic band that secures the mask to the bottom of the face.

**cup gasket**

Part of the mask that adheres to the bottom of the face and prevents ambient air from entering.

**exhalation valve**

Device that allows air to be expelled from the mask.

**half-mask respirator**

Mask that covers and protects the nose and mouth.

## foot protection

Shoes and accessories worn to protect the feet from dangers such as falling objects, intense heat and sharp tools.

**safety boot**

Highly durable boot with an insulated nonslip sole and a reinforced toe; it comes up over the ankles.

**toe guard**

Accessory worn over a shoe to protect the end of the foot.

**reinforced toe**

Metal shell between the top of the boot and its lining; it protects the toes.

The pictograms used to warn of danger or indicate that safety equipment is mandatory.

### dangerous materials

Pictogram warning of materials that pose a health or environmental risk owing to their properties or reactions.



#### corrosive

Pictogram warning of materials that can damage living tissue or other bodies such as metal.



#### electrical hazard

Pictogram warning of the danger of electrocution.



#### explosive

Pictogram warning of materials that explode by chemical reaction.



#### flammable

Pictogram warning of flammable materials.



#### radioactive

Pictogram warning of radioactive materials.



#### poison

Pictogram warning of materials harmful to an organism when inhaled, ingested or absorbed by the skin.

**protection**

Pictogram warning that protective equipment is mandatory on certain parts of the body.

**eye protection**

Pictogram warning that safety glasses are mandatory.

**ear protection**  
Pictogram warning that equipment that reduces noise perception is mandatory.

**head protection**

Pictogram warning that safety caps are mandatory.

**hand protection**  
Pictogram warning that protective gloves are mandatory.

**foot protection**

Pictogram warning that protective footwear or accessories are mandatory.

**respiratory system protection**  
Pictogram warning that respirators are mandatory.



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