

# FEATURES OF BONES: DESCRIPTIONS AND EXAMPLES

15 September 2016

Martini's 8<sup>th</sup>: p 187, Martini's 9th: p. 172, 10th: 181

The following terms will be used to describe and name features of bones which you are about to learn. Familiarize yourself with the list first, then learn the terms as you learn the bones of the body and the names and function of their features. I have listed example features starting with the skull and working down to the femur.

I used to have a web page with each feature linked to its image, but when my College supported web page disappeared, so did the links... I will try to reconstruct it. If I do so, it will replace this file:

[https://fankhauserblog.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/09\\_features-of-bones\\_-descriptions-and-examples\\_09oct2015.pdf](https://fankhauserblog.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/09_features-of-bones_-descriptions-and-examples_09oct2015.pdf)

Name	Description	Example
<b>Features found in the skull</b>		
Meatus [to go]	canal-like passage way	temporal bone: ext auditory meatus
Process [forward, to go]	a projection from a bone	temporal bone: styloid process
Fissure [to split]	narrow slit-like opening	orbit: superior & inferior
Sinus [chamber]	cavity within a bone, air & mucous	frontal and maxillary sinuses
Foramen [to pierce]	round opening through bone	mental foramen, foramen magnum
Ramus [branch]	arm-like extension of bone	mandibular ramus
Condyle [knuckle]	rounded knuckle like articular surface	mandibular condyle, femur: distal
Fossa [trench or groove]	shallow depression, often articular	temporal: mandibular fossa
<b>Features found in the humerus</b>		
Tubercle [bump little]	small rounded projection	humerus: greater & lesser
Groove [something dug]	furrow	humerus: inter tubercular groove
Head	rounded expansion, carried on neck	humerus: proximal end, femur
Tuberosity [bump like]	large rounded projection	humerus: deltoid tuberosity
Epicondyle [upon knuc.]	elevated area on or above condyle	humerus: lateral & medial
<b>Features found in the vertebra and os coxa</b>		
Facet [face little]	smooth, nearly flat articular surface	vertebral facets
Crest [something curved]	prominent narrow curved ridge	os coxa: iliac crest
Spine [thorn]	sharp, slender pointed projection	os coxa: iliac spines
<b>Features found in the femur</b>		
Trochanter [runner]	large, blunt process	femur: proximal end
Line	narrow low ridge	femur: linea aspera

