Bone features: chart

05.029

Feature	Description	Examples
Condyle	A large, concave or convex prominence forming part of a joint	Medial and lateral condyles of the humerus and tibia
Crest	A ridge or prominent border to which ligaments attach	Crest of the fibula; iliac crest; pubic crest; sacral crests
Diaphysis (or shaft)	The part of a long bone between the epiphyses	Shaft of the femur
Epicondyle	A prominence, adjacent to a condyle, to which ligaments attach	Lateral and medial epicondyles of the femur
Epiphysis	The end of a long bone; the last part to ossify	Epiphysis of the humerus
Facet	A smooth, flat surface forming part of a joint	Articular facet of a vertebra
Fissure	A slit or furrow	Superior orbital fissure of the sphenoid bone
Foramen	A hole through which blood vessels, nerves, or ligaments pass	Foramen ovale; foramen spinosum sacral foramina; mental foramen
Fossa	A depression, hollow, or cavity on or in a bone	Canine fossa; jugular fossa; supraspinous fossa; coronoid foss
Head	Rounded projection at the proximal end of a bone, forming part of a joint	Head of the femur; head of the humerus
Lamina	A thin plate of bone	Lamina of a vertebra
Line	A slight ridge to which connective tissues attach	Linea aspera of the femur
Meatus	A canal or passageway running through a bone	External auditory meatus of the temporal bone
Neck	Constricted part of a bone, supporting the head	Neck of the humerus; neck of the femur
Process	A prominent projection	Alveolar process; frontal process; zygomatic process
Shaft (or diaphysis)	The part of a long bone between the epiphyses	Shaft of the femur; shaft of the fibula
Spinous process	A pointed, slim projection to which connective tissues attach	Spinous process of a vertebra
Trochanter	A large, blunt projection to which connective tissues attach	Greater and lesser trochanters of the femur
Trochlea	A joint surface that is grooved like a pulley	Trochlea of the humerus
Tubercle	A small, rounded process to which connective tissues attach	Greater and lesser tubercles of the humerus
Tuberosity	A large, rounded, often roughened process to which connective tissues attach	Ischial tuberosity; navicular tuberosity; tibial tuberosity