

## The Axial Skeleton - Vertebral Column

<u>Bone Name</u>	<u># bones</u>	<u>Bone marking</u>	<u>Description &amp; Related Structures of Importance</u>
<i>Typical Vertebra</i>	32	lamina pedicle transverse process spinous process articular processes (superior and inferior) vertebral foramen body  intervertebral foramen	connects transverse to spinous process (cut during a laminectomy) connects body to transverse process process directed laterally process directed posteriorly have <b>facets</b> to form joints between adjacent vertebrae contains spinal cord largest part of the vertebra intervertebral discs are found between adjacent vertebral bodies formed when 2 vertebra come together, contain spinal nerves
<i>Cervical</i>	7	body spinous process vertebral foramen transverse process transverse foramen	small body with articular processes horizontal, bifid (forked) appearance large (especially with respect to size of body), slight oval shape contains transverse foramina contains vertebral artery
<i>Atlas (C1)</i>		articular facet for dens superior and inferior articular processes and facets anterior and posterior arches	has no body, body has become the dens (odontoid process) of the axis
<i>Axis (C2)</i>		body and dens superior and inferior articular processes and facets	has odontoid process (dens), which is the fused body of C1
<i>Vertebra Prominens (C7)</i>		spinous process	very large, blunt, not bifid, not covered by ligamentum nuchae therefore, is the first spinous process easily felt under the skin
<i>Thoracic</i>	12	body superior and inferior articular processes and facets spinous process vertebral foramen transverse process	heart-shaped, contains demifacets for articulation of the head of a rib points inferiorly relatively small, circular in shape contains costal facets for articulation of the tubercle of a rib.
<i>Lumbar</i>	5	body superior and inferior articular processes and facets spinous process vertebral foramen transverse process	very large, heavy body short and blunt, square shaped, horizontal small (especially with respect to size of body), round short and blunt, heavy
<i>Sacrum</i>	5 (fused)	anterior sacral foramina posterior sacral foramina median sacral crest auricular surfaces superior articular processes sacral hiatus	contain ventral (anterior) rami of sacral spinal nerves contain dorsal (posterior) rami of sacral spinal nerves represents fused spinous processes of sacral vertebrae "ear" like process, articulates with the iliac bones contain facets to articulate with inferior articular processes of L5 the "gap" at the inferior end of the sacral canal
<i>Coccyx</i>	2 to 3 (fused)		

Be able to identify the primary (thoracic and sacral) and secondary (cervical and lumbar) curvatures of the spine