



# Honey Bee Anatomy

**Stinger:** Only found in female honey bees that is used for defense against intruders

**Hind Wing:** The smaller wing that is also used primarily for flight but can also be used as a fan to cool down the hive

**Fore Wing:** The bee's larger wing used primarily for flight but also can be used as a cooling mechanism

**Head:** The first part of the bee's body that contains, compound eyes, ocellus, antenna, mandible, and proboscis

**Compound Eye:** They have two Compound eyes made up of thousands tiny lens that allow honey bees to see ultraviolet light

**Ocellus:** Is three eyes, in the shape of a triangle on top of the honey bee's head. They are thick lens that help sense the changes in brightness of daylight

**Antenna:** Sensitive, movable feelers which detect odor and movement

**Mandible:** Jaw like structures on both sides of the bee's head that are used to chew honey and pollen, as well as knead wax

**Proboscis:** A straw like structure that is the bee's tongue that is used for sucking nectar, honey, and water. It also plays a role in food exchange between bees

**Abdomen:** The rear end of the bee's body composed nine segments that contains reproductive, digestion, and respiration organs

**Pollen Basket:** On the outer hind leg that has long curved hairs that holds the pollen in place.

**Thorax:** The middle section of the bee's body that contains flight muscles, the wings and six legs

**Legs:** They have three pairs of legs that use for walking, dusting off their antenna, brushing pollen out of hairs on the body, and to store pollen