

Bone Markings

Term	Description	Example
Condyle	Rounded articular projection	Condyles of femur
Crest	Narrow ridge of bone; usually prominent	Iliac crest
Epicondyle	Raised area on or above a condyle	Medial epicondyle of humerus
Facet	Smooth, nearly flat articular surface	Vertebral facet
Fissure	Narrow, slit-like opening	Inferior orbital fissure
Foramen pl. foramina	Round or oval opening through a bone	Foramen magnum of occipital bone
Fossa	Shallow, basin-like depression in a bone, often serving as an articular surface	Mandibular fossa of temporal bone
Groove	Furrow	Intertubercular groove
Head	Bony expansion carried on a narrow neck	Head of femur
Line	Narrow ridge of bone; less prominent than a crest	Ileopectineal line
Meatus	Canal-like passage	External auditory meatus
Process	Prominence or projection	Zygomatic process
Ramus	Arm-like bar of bone	Mandibular ramus
Sinus	Space within a bone, filled with air & lined with mucous membrane	Frontal sinus
Spine	Sharp, slender, often pointed projection	Anterior superior spine of ilium
Trochanter	Very large, blunt, irregularly shaped process	Greater trochanter of femur
Tubercle	Small rounded projection or process	Greater tubercle of humerus
Tuberosity	Large rounded projection; may be roughened	Ischial tuberosity