

# The Appendicular Skeleton

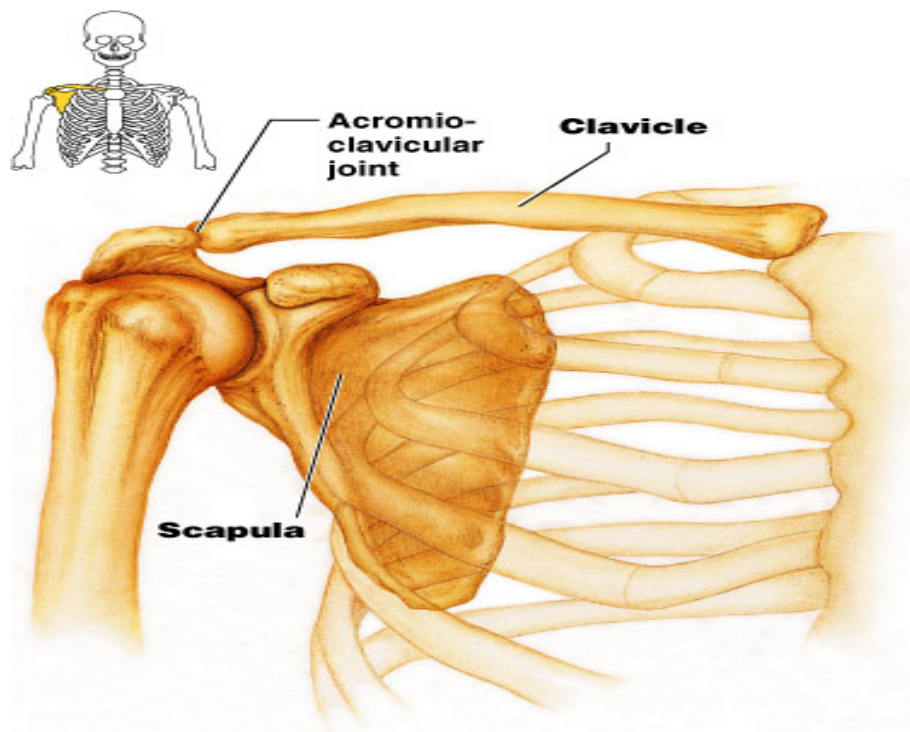
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## Appendicular Skeleton

- The appendicular skeleton is made up of the bones of the limbs and their girdles
- Pectoral girdles attach the upper limbs to the body trunk
- Pelvic girdle secures the lower limbs

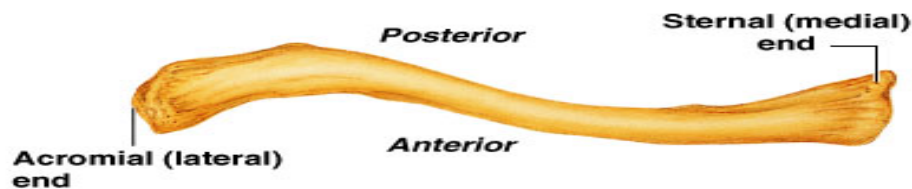
## Pectoral Girdles (Shoulder Girdles)

- The pectoral girdles consist of the anterior clavicles and the posterior scapulae
- They attach the upper limbs to the axial skeleton in a manner that allows for maximum movement
- Pectoral girdles do not quite encircle the body completely
  - Medial end of each clavicle articulates with the manubrium and first rib
  - Laterally—the ends of the clavicles join the scapulae
- Girdle is very light and upper limbs are mobile
- Mobility of the pectoral girdle
  - Only clavicle articulates with the axial skeleton
  - Scapula can move freely
  - Socket of the shoulder joint (glenoid cavity) is shallow
    - Good for flexibility, bad for stability



### Clavicles (Collarbones)

- The clavicles are slender, doubly curved long bones lying across the superior thorax
- The acromial (lateral) end articulates with the scapula, and the sternal (medial) end articulates with the sternum
- Hold the scapulae and arms laterally
- Transmit compression forces from the upper limbs to the axial skeleton
- They provide attachment points for numerous muscles, and act as braces to hold the scapulae and arms out laterally away from the body



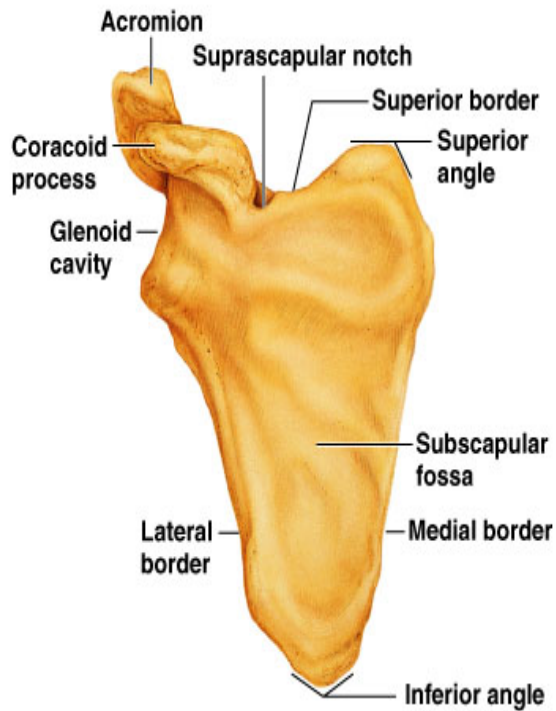
**(b) Right clavicle, superior view**



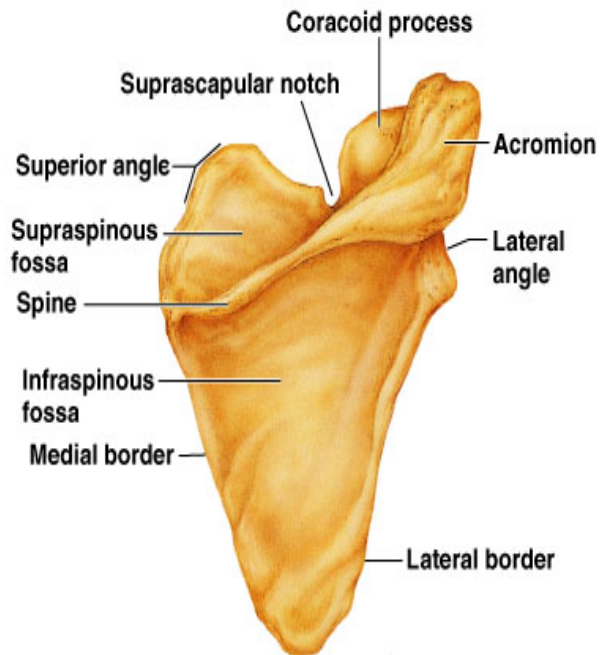
**(c) Right clavicle, inferior view**

### Scapulae (Shoulder Blades)

- The scapulae are triangular, flat bones lying on the dorsal surface of the rib cage, between the second and seventh ribs
- Scapulae have three borders and three angles
- Major markings include the suprascapular notch, the supraspinous and infraspinous fossae, the spine, the acromion, and the coracoid process



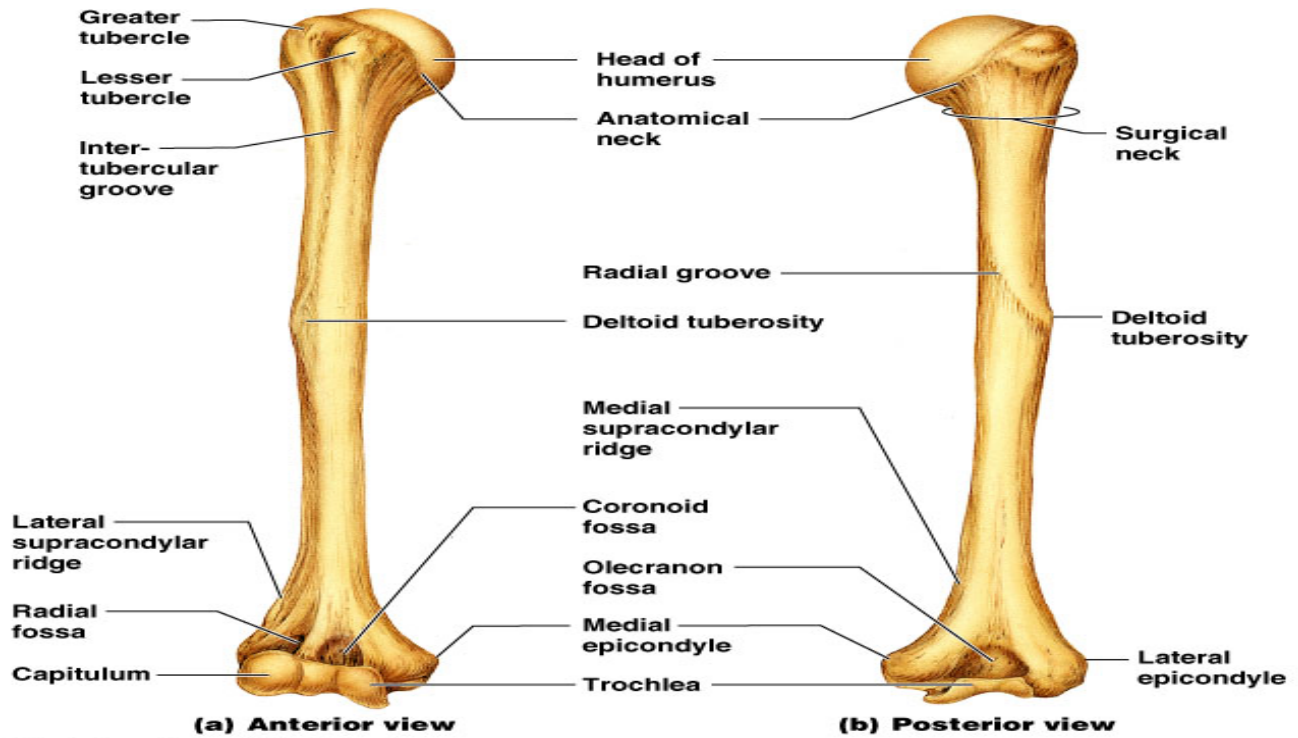
**(d) Right scapula, anterior aspect**



**(e) Right scapula, posterior aspect**

## The Upper Limb

- The upper limb consists of the arm (brachium), forearm (antebrachium), and hand (manus)
- Thirty-seven bones form the skeletal framework of each upper limb
- Arm - Brachium
  - The humerus is the sole bone of the arm
  - Longest and strongest bone of the upper extremity
  - It articulates with the scapula at the shoulder, and the radius and ulna at the elbow
- Forearm - Antebrachium
  - The bones of the forearm are the radius and ulna
  - They articulate proximally with the humerus and distally with the wrist bones
  - They also articulate with each other proximally and distally at small radioulnar joints
  - Interosseous membrane connects the two bones along their entire length
  - Bones of the Forearm
    - Ulna
      - The ulna lies medially in the forearm and is slightly longer than the radius (non thumb side)
      - Forms the major portion of the elbow joint with the humerus



**(a) Anterior view**

**(b) Posterior view**

- Radius

- The radius lies opposite the ulna and is thin at its proximal end, widened distally (thumb side)
- The superior surface of the head articulates with the humerus

- Hand - Manus

- Carpals - Wrist bones

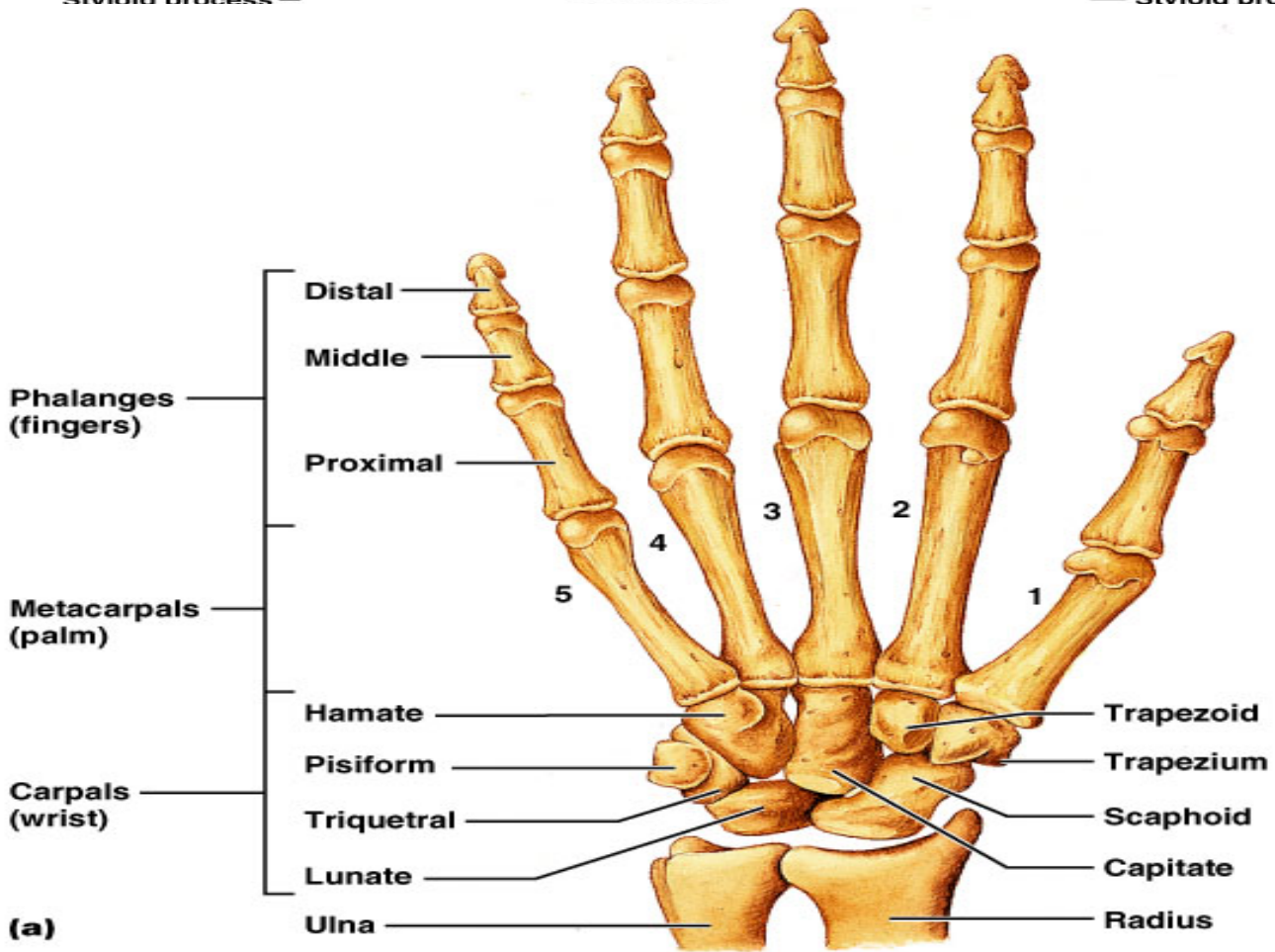
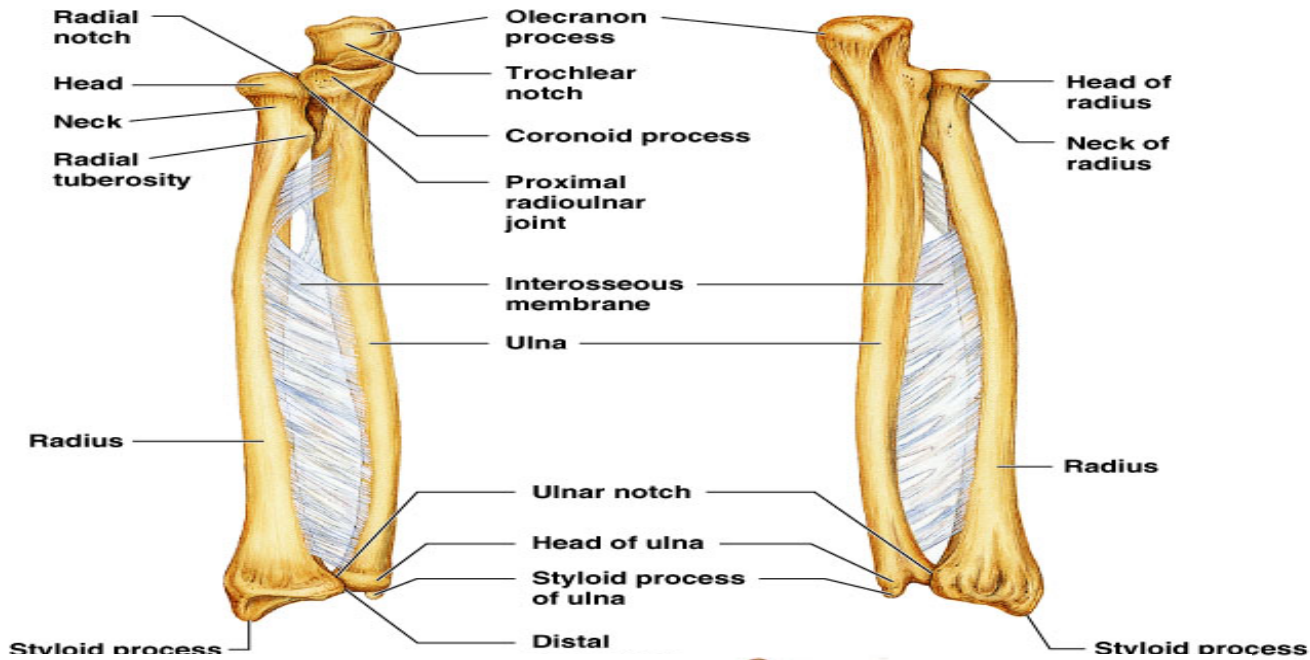
- Gliding movements occur between carpals
- Composed of eight marble-sized bones
  - Are arranged in two irregular rows
  - Proximal row from lateral to medial
    - Scaphoid, lunate, triquetral, and pisiform
  - Distal row from lateral to medial
    - Trapezium, trapezoid, capitate, and hamate

- Metacarpals – Palm

- Five metacarpals radiate distally from the wrist
- Metacarpals form the palm
- Numbered I–V, beginning with the pollex (thumb)
- Bases articulate proximally with the distal row of carpals
- Heads articulate distally with the proximal phalanges

- Phalanges – Fingers Phalanges

- Numbered I–V, beginning with the pollex (thumb)
- Except for the thumb, each finger has three phalanges
- Proximal, middle, and distal



(a)

## **Pelvic Girdle (Hip)**

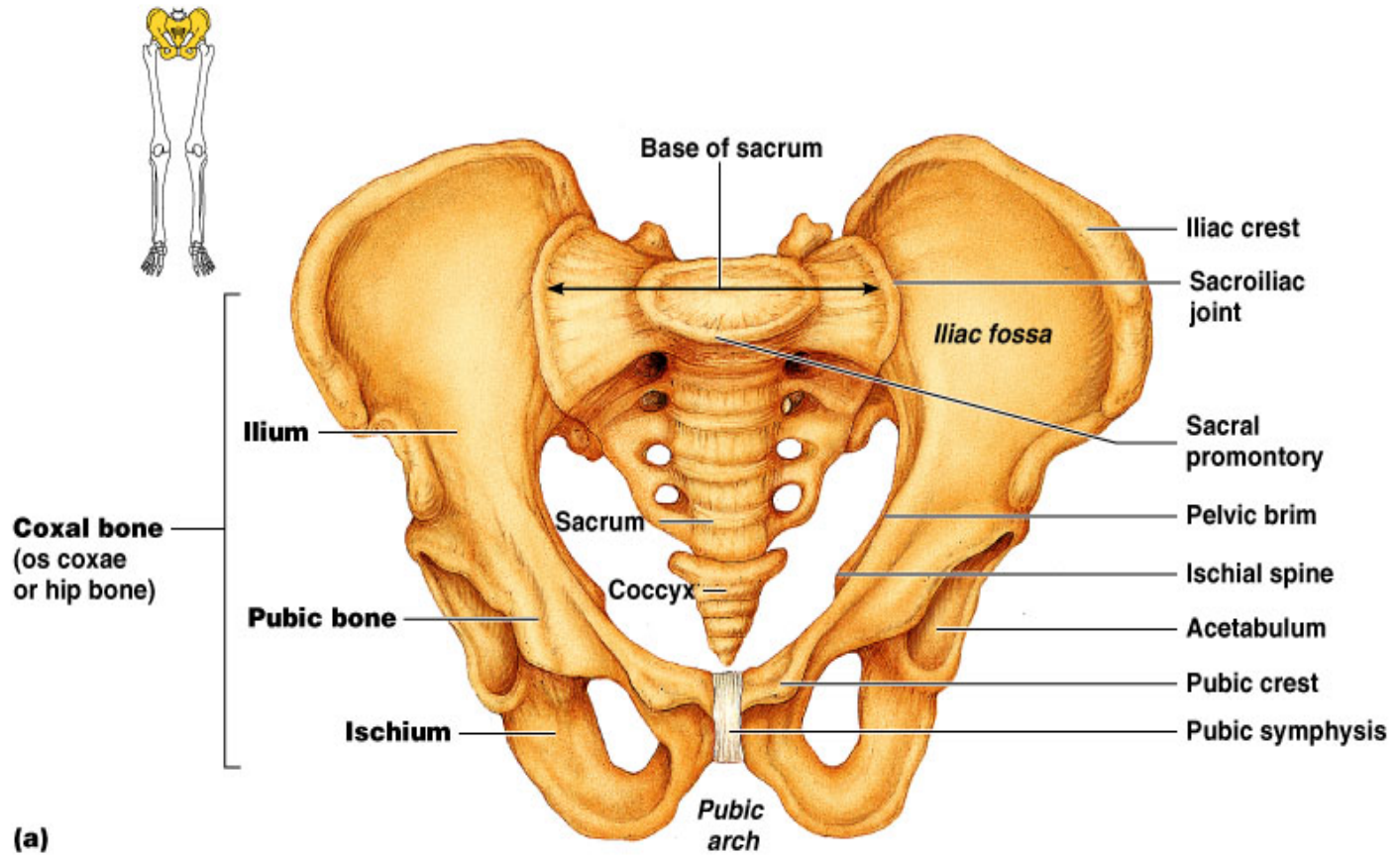
- The hip is formed by a pair of hip bones
- Together with the sacrum and the coccyx, these bones form the bony pelvis
- The pelvis
  - Attaches the lower limbs to the axial skeleton with the strongest ligaments of the body
  - Attaches lower limbs to the spine
  - Transmits weight of the upper body to the lower limbs
  - Supports the visceral organs of the pelvis
  - Lower limbs have less freedom of movement
  - Are more stable than the arm
  - Acetabulum is a deep cup that holds the head of the femur
  - Consists of paired hip bones (coxal bones or pelvic bone) and the sacrum
  - Coxal bones unite anteriorly with each other and articulate posteriorly with the sacrum
  - Consists of three separate bones in childhood
    - Ilium, ischium, and pubis
    - Bones fuse, retain separate names to regions of the coxal bones
  - Forms the superior region of the coxal bone
  - Site of attachment for many muscles
  - Articulation with the sacrum forms sacroiliac joint Forms posteroinferior region of the coxal bone
  - Anteriorly—joins the pubis
  - Ischial tuberosities - Are the strongest part of the hip bone

## **Pubis**

- Forms the anterior region of the coxal bone
- Lies horizontally in anatomical position
- Pubic symphysis
- The two pubic bones are joined by fibrocartilage at the midline
  - Pubic arch—inferior to the pubic symphysis
- Angle helps distinguish male from female pelvis

## **Pelvic Structure and Childbearing**

- Bony pelvis is divided into two regions
- False (greater) pelvis—bounded by alae of the iliac bones
- True (lesser) pelvis—inferior to pelvic brim
  - Forms a bowl containing the pelvic organs
- Male and female pelvis exhibit differences
  - Female pelvis is wider, shallower, and lighter
  - Female pelvis is adapted for childbearing
  - Pelvis is lighter, wider, and shallower than in the male
  - Provides more room in the true pelvis

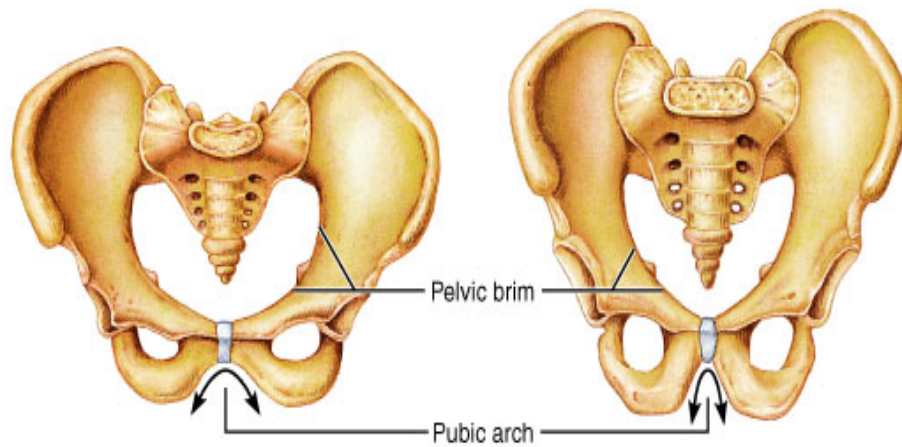


### Pelvic Girdle (Hip)

- Ilium
  - The ilium is a large flaring bone that forms the superior region of the hip bone
    - It consists of a body and a superior winglike portion called the ala
    - The broad posterolateral surface is called the gluteal surface
  - The auricular surface articulates with the sacrum (sacroiliac joint)
- Ischium
  - The ischium forms the posteroinferior part of the hip bone

**Female**

**Male**



### The Lower Limb

- The three segments of the lower limb are the thigh, leg, and foot
- Bones of lower limb are thicker and stronger than those of upper limb
- They carry the weight of the erect body, and are subjected to exceptional forces when one jumps or runs

### Thigh

- The region of the lower limb between the hip and the knee
- Femur—the single bone of the thigh
- Longest and strongest bone of the body
  - Ball-shaped head of the femur articulates with the acetabulum

### Patella

- Triangular sesamoid bone
- Embedded in the tendon that secures the quadriceps muscles
- Protects the knee anteriorly
  - Improves leverage of the thigh muscles across the knee

### Leg

- Refers to the region of the lower limb between the knee and the ankle
- Composed of the tibia and fibula
  - Tibia—more massive medial bone of the leg
    - Receives weight of the body from the femur
    - Tibia articulates with femur at superior end - Forms the knee joint
    - Tibia articulates with talus at the inferior end - Forms the ankle joint
  - Fibula—sticklike lateral bone of the leg
    - Fibula does not contribute to the knee joint
    - Stabilizes the ankle joint
  - Interosseous membrane
    - Connects the tibia and fibula



## **The Foot**

- Foot is composed of
  - Tarsus, metatarsus, and the phalanges
- Important functions
  - Supports body weight
  - Acts as a lever to propel body forward when walking
    - Segmentation makes foot pliable and adapted to uneven ground

## **Tarsus**

- Makes up the posterior half of the foot
- Contains seven bones called tarsals
- Body weight is borne primarily by the talus and calcaneus
  - Other tarsals:
    - Cuboid and navicular
    - Medial, intermediate, and lateral cuneiforms

## **Metatarsus**

- Consists of five small long bones called metatarsals
- Numbered I–V beginning with the hallux (great toe)
  - First metatarsal supports body weight

## **Phalanges of the Toes**

- 14 phalanges of the toes
- Smaller and less nimble than those of the fingers
- Structure and arrangement are similar to phalanges of fingers
- Each toe has proximal, middle, and distal phalanges
  - Exception: great toe has only two phalanges, proximal and distal

## **Arches of the Foot**

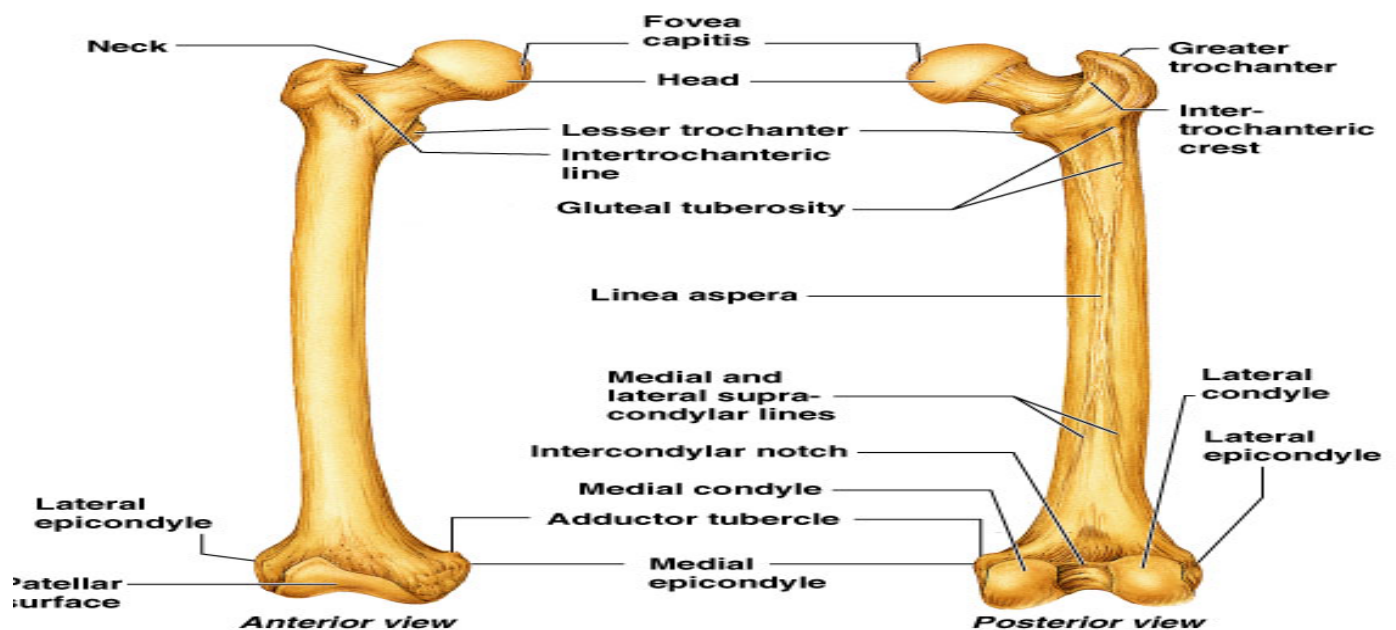
- Foot has three important arches
  - Medial longitudinal arch, lateral longitudinal arch, transverse arch
- Arches are maintained by
  - Interlocking shapes of tarsals
  - Ligaments and tendons
- “Keystone” bones of arches
  - Talus—medial longitudinal arch
  - Cuboid—lateral longitudinal arch

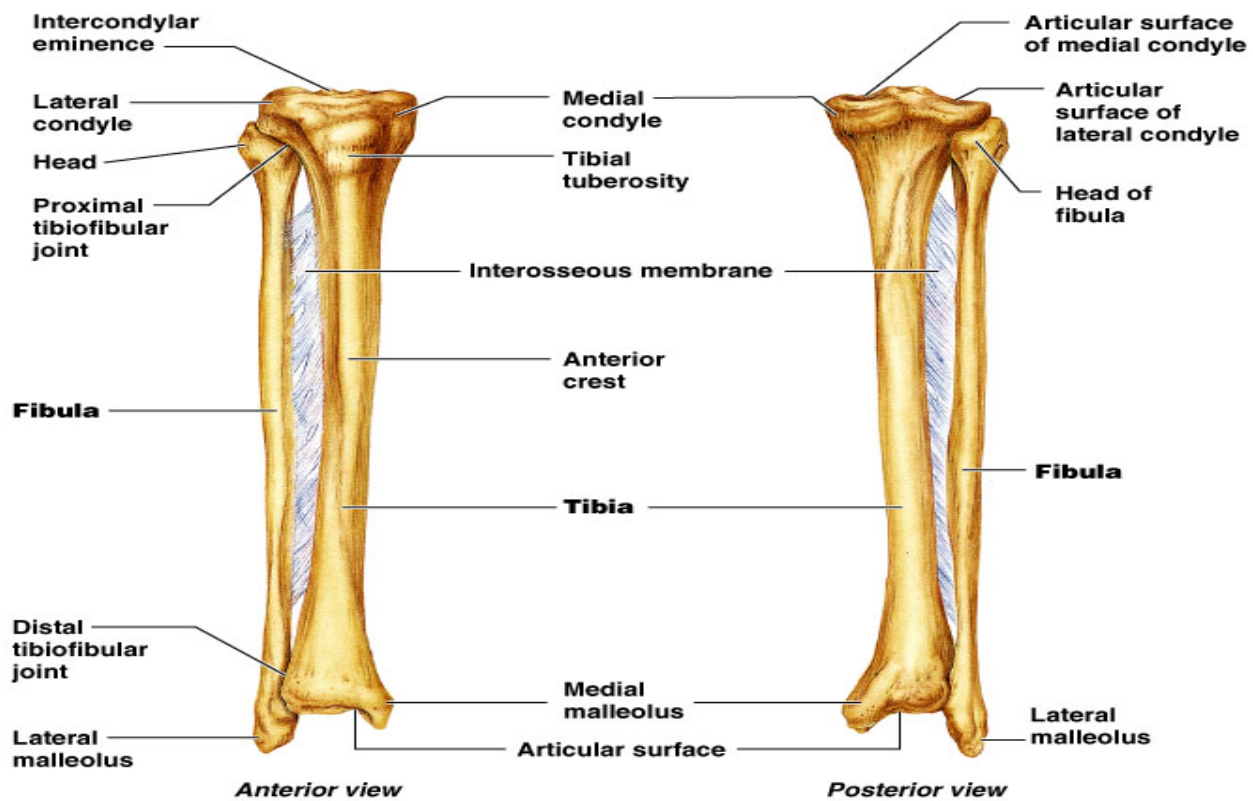
## **Disorders of the Appendicular Skeleton**

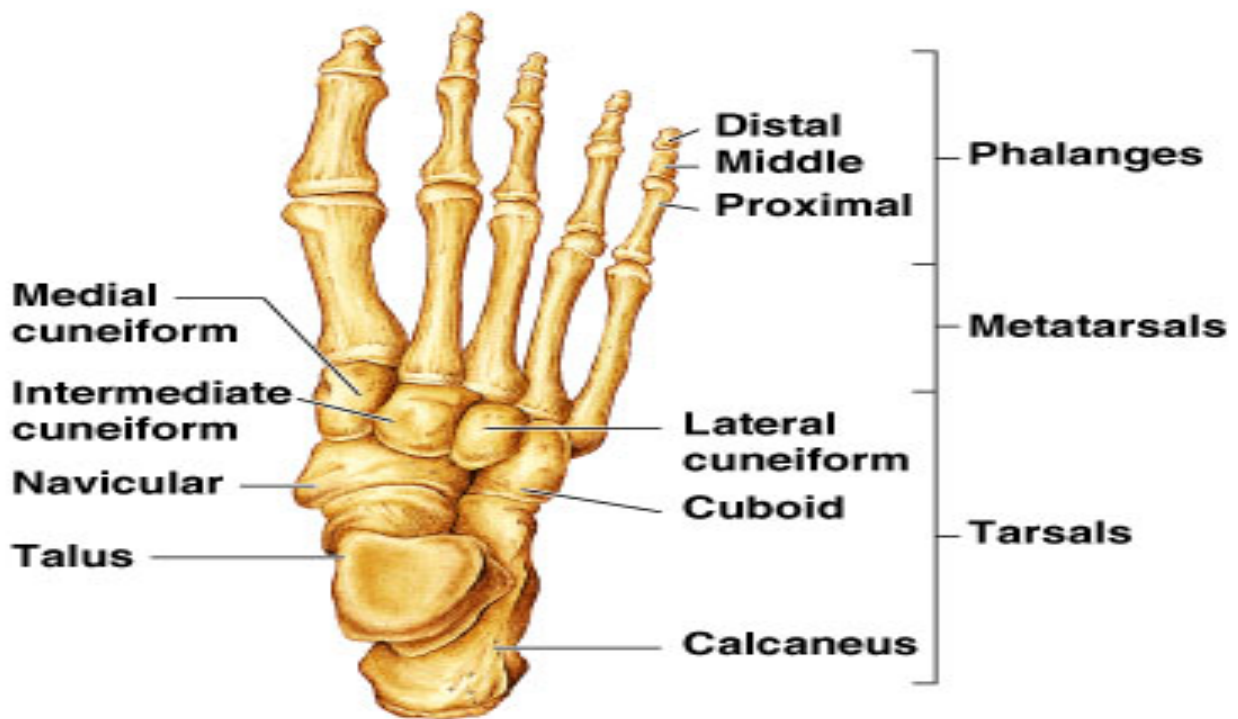
- Bone fractures
- Hip dysplasia
  - Head of the femur slips out of acetabulum
- Clubfoot
  - Soles of the feet turn medially

## The Appendicular Skeleton Throughout Life

- Growth of the appendicular skeleton
  - Increases height
  - Changes body proportions
  - Upper/lower body ratio changes with age
- At birth, head and trunk are 1.5 times as long as lower limbs
- Lower limbs grow faster than the trunk
- Upper/lower body ratio of 1 to 1 by age 10
- Few changes occur in adult skeleton until middle age, when:
  - Skeleton loses mass
  - Osteoporosis and limb fractures become more common







**(a) Superior view**



## Skeletal Anatomy Mnemonics

### Facial Bones

- Virgil Can Not Make My Pet Zebra Laugh!
  - Vomer, Conchae, Nasal, Maxilla, Mandible, Palatine, Zygomatic, Lacrimal

### Carpal Bones

- Some Lovers Try Positions That They Cannot Handle or
- Stop Letting Those People Touch The Cadaver's Hand or
- She Looks Too Pretty, Try To Catch Her or
- She Like To Play, Try To Catch Her or
  - Proximal row, lateral-to-medial: Scaphoid Lunate Triquetrum Pisiform
  - Distal row, lateral-to-medial: Trapezium Trapezoid Capitate Hamate

### Tarsal Bones

- Tall Californian Navy Medcial Interns Lay Cuties or
- Tiger Cubs Need MILC
  - In order (right foot, superior to inferior, medial to lateral):
    - Talus, Calcaneus, Navicular, Medial cuneiform, Intermediate cuneiform, Lateral cuneiform, Cuboid

### Tibia vs. Fibula – which is lateral?

- Fibu**LA** is **LA**teral.

### Recognizing and Thoracic vs. Lumbar Vertebra

- Examine vertebral body shape:
  - **Thoracic** is **heart**-shaped body since your **heart** is in your **thorax**.
  - **Lumbar** is **kidney-bean** shaped since **kidneys** are in **lumbar** area.