
THE HUMAN BODY

Human tissue

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Human tissue

- Tissue is a group of specialised cells that work together to perform a specific function.
- Tissue can be grouped into four types: **nervous**, **epithelial**, **connective** and **muscle**.

Nervous tissue

Nervous tissue has two types of cells: neurons, which transmit nerve impulses, and glial cells, which support the neurons.

Epithelial tissue

Epithelial tissue is made up of many superimposed layers of cells.

There are two main groups:

- **Covering epithelia** covers internal and external body surfaces, such as the **epidermis** (the outer layer of the skin), the **mucous membranes** (which protect the digestive and respiratory tracks), and the **endothelia** (which covers the blood vessels and the heart).
- **Glandular epithelia** makes up the glands. There are three types of glands: **exocrine**, **endocrine** and **mixed**.

Connective tissue

Connective tissue connects other tissues. There are several different types:

- Osseous or bone tissue.
- Adipose tissue.
- Cartilage tissue.
- Connective tissue proper.
- Blood tissue.

It has three components: **cells**, **fibres** and an intercellular substance or **matrix**.

Muscular tissue

- Muscular tissue makes up the muscles.
- There are three types of muscular tissue: **smooth muscular tissue** (in visceral muscles), **skeletal muscle tissue** (in skeletal muscles) and **cardiac muscle tissue** (in the heart wall).