# Body Tissues

**Tissue**: group of cells with similar structure and function.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Main Function</th>
<th>Cells</th>
<th>Intercellular Matrix</th>
<th>Other Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Epithelial | Protection            | Abundant cells. Shape: cubical, squamous, or columnar. Cells arranged in a simple layer or many layers (stratified). | Restricted to the basement membrane, which underlies the bottom layer of cells. | - Classified according to cell shape and number of layers.  
- Glandular epithelium produces/secretes chemicals. |
| Connective | Binding between tissues, support | Sparse population of cells. | Abundant intercellular matrix with various types and concentrations of fibres (collagenous, reticular, elastic). | Types: fibrous connective, loose connective, cartilage, bone, blood, adipose. |
- Actin & myosin filaments → stripes in skeletal & cardiac muscles |
| Nervous    | Communication network | - Neurons: axon (body) & dendrites (extensions)  
- To conduct nerve signals.  
- Support cells (glial cells). | Not abundant. Most of the support is done by the glial cells. | - Forms CNS & PNS  
- Responsible for receiving & transmitting stimuli. |