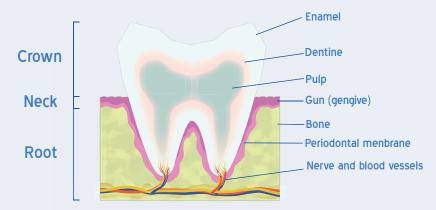


Teeth of humans are small, calcified, hard, whitish structures found in the mouth. They function in mechanically breaking down items of food by cutting and crushing them in preparation for swallowing and digestion. The roots of teeth are embedded in the maxilla (upper jaw) or the mandible (lower jaw) and are covered by gums. Teeth are made of multiple tissues of varying density and hardness.

Humans, like other mammals, are diphyodont, meaning that they develop two sets of teeth. The first set (also called the "baby", "milk", "primary", and "deciduous" set) normally starts to appear at about six months of age. The tooth is divided into:

- Crown upper teeth, usually the only visible part. The shape determines the function of the crown of the tooth. For example, the front teeth are sharp, have the shape of a chisel and serve for cutting, while molars have flat surfaces and serve to grind food.
- Line junction of the teeth and gums, without brushing and proper use of dental floss, this area can form plaque and tartar, causing gingivitis and gum disease.
- Tooth root-part which is inside the bone. The root, which holds the tooth inserted in the bone, is more or less two-thirds of its size.
- Enamel-the outermost layer of the tooth surface. It is the hardest, most mineralized tissue in the entire human body, but it can be damaged if the teeth are not properly cleaned.
- Dentin layer of the tooth under the enamel. If decay get through the enamel, it next attacks the dentin, where millions of tiny tubes lead directly to the dental pulp.
- Pulp-soft tissue found in the center of the tooth, which are the nerve and blood vessels. When tooth decay reaches the area, people usually feel pain.





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