

The axial skeleton is the part of the skeleton that consists of the bones of the head and trunk of a vertebrate. The human skeleton, it consists of 80 bones and is composed of six parts; the skull (22 bones), also the ossicles of the middle ear, the hyoid bone, the rib cage, sternum, and the vertebral column. The axial skeleton together with the appendicular skeleton forms the complete skeleton. Another definition of the axial skeleton is the bones including the vertebrae, sacrum, coccyx, ribs, and sternum.

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