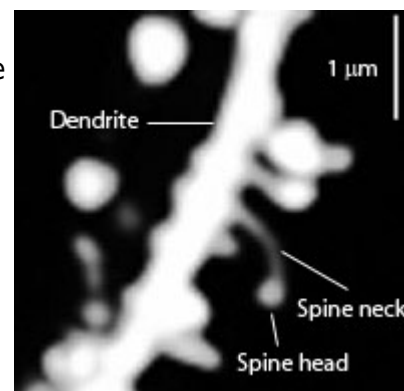


Dendritic spine

A dendritic spine (or spine) is a small membranous protrusion from a neuron's dendrite that typically receives input from a single [axon](#) at the [synapse](#). Dendritic spines serve as a storage site for synaptic strength and help transmit electrical signals to the neuron's cell body. Most spines have a bulbous head (the spine head), and a thin neck that connects the head of the spine to the shaft of the [dendrite](#). The dendrites of a single neuron can contain hundreds to thousands of spines. In addition to spines providing an anatomical substrate for memory storage and synaptic transmission, they may also serve to increase the number of possible contacts between neurons.



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