

Is it Epithelial Tissue or is it Connective Tissue?

Epithelial Tissue

Cells line an internal or external surface.
 Each cell touches neighboring cells.
 Cells are organized into rows, layers or sheets.

Connective Tissue

Cells do not usually line a surface.
 Cells are usually separated from most neighboring cells by matrix or fibers. (Exception: adipose cells seem to be touching each other)
 Cells are not organized into rows, layers, or sheets.

Is the Epithelial Tissue Simple or Stratified?

Is the Connective Tissue Cartilage or not?

Simple Epithelial Tissue.

The cells are arranged in a single row or sheet.

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Stratified Epithelial Tissue.

The cells are arranged into two or more rows or sheets.

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Cartilage.

Tissue contains lacunae (hollow spaces inside a matrix).

Each lacuna may contain one or several cells.

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NOT Cartilage.

Tissue has NO lacunae.

Is the Connective Tissue dense or not?

Dense Connective Tissue.

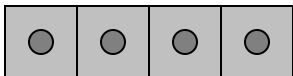
Cells and fibers fill up almost all available space.

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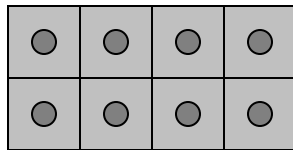
Loose Connective Tissue

Cells and fibers appear separated by fluid or air.

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cells – one layer thick



cells – in multiple layers

lacuna

cell

