





## Honeybees compared to Yellow Jackets, Paper Wasps and Hornets

	<b>Honeybee</b>	<b>Yellow Jacket</b>	<b>Paper Wasp</b>	<b>Hornet</b>
				
<b>Color</b>	Varies but generally amber to brown translucent alternating with black stripes; some are mostly black	Black and opaque bright yellow stripes	Dusty yellow to dark brown or black	Black and ivory white markings
<b>Size</b>	½ inch	½ inch	¾ to 1 inch	¾ inch
<b>Legs</b>	Not generally visible while flying; pollen baskets on rear legs can be seen while walking	Two long legs are visible hanging down during flight; no pollen baskets	Long, no pollen baskets	No pollen baskets
<b>Behavior toward humans and animals</b>	Gentle unless hive is threatened	Aggressive	Gentle	Aggressive
<b>Preferred Food</b>	Nectar and pollen from flowers	Other insects, overripe fruit, sugary drinks, human food, particularly meat	Other insects	Other insects
<b>Stinger</b>	Barbed, kills bee when used	Smooth, retracts and can be used indefinitely	Smooth, retracts and can be used indefinitely	Smooth, retracts and can be used indefinitely
<b>Lives in</b>	Large colonies of flat wax-based honeycomb hanging vertically	Ground, small cavities or semi-open structures	Small umbrella-shaped papery combs hanging horizontally in protected spaces; attics, eaves	Large paper nest shaped like inverted pear; usually hangs from branches or eaves