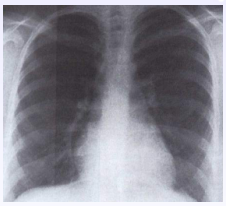
Thoracic Cage

-Ribs, thoracic vertebrae, sternum, costal cartilages

-Support the shoulder girdle and upper limbs, protect viscera in the thoracic and upper abdominal cavities, breathing



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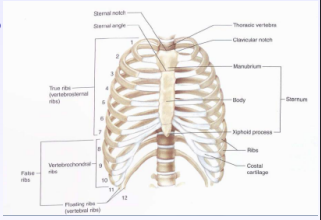
Ribs

Usually have 24 (one pair attached to each thoracic vertebrae)
-Some people may have extra attached to cervical or lumbar

*First seven ribs are true ribs (join to sternum directly) with their cartilage

*Last five are false ribs because cartilage does not reach sternum directly
-First three attach to seventh true rib
-Last two have no attachment to sternum (floating ribs)



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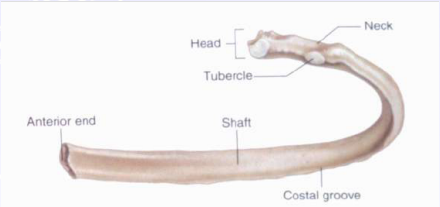

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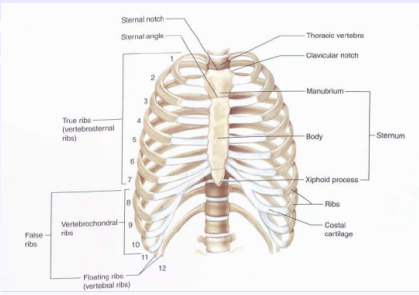
Sternum

AKA Breastbone

3 parts
Manubrium
Body
Xiphoid process



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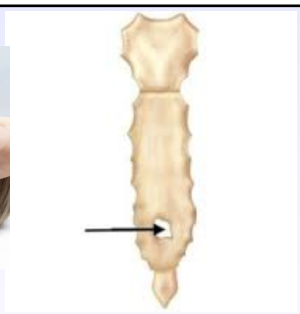

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