

What is a Bee Hive?

Presented by
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- There are different types of Bee Hives
 - The Warre (pronounced: WAR-ray)
 - The Top Bar
 - The Langstroth
- Why is the Langstroth Hive is the most popular?
 - Most available resources of any hive style
 - Hives are made to an industry standard, so hive components can be mixed and matched between suppliers
 - Many accessories and upgrades are available
 - 4 sided frame provides comb stability



The modern bee hive is like a highly efficient multi-storied factory with each "story" having a specific function. These "stories" work together to provide a home for bees and a honey factory for the beekeeper.

- Hive Cover** — telescoping cover "relays" over the sides of the top super to protect the hive. Galvanized covering.
- Inner Cover** — Creates a dead air space for insulation from heat and cold.
- Shallow Supers** — For "surplus" honey storage. Bees store their extra honey in these for the beekeeper to take. 6N", 5 1/2" supers, or even hive bodies may be used.
- Queen Excluder** — Keeps the queen bee in the brood chambers as she is too large to pass through the excluder.
- Hive Bodies** — "Brood Chambers" are the bee's living quarters. Queen lays eggs in these chambers and brood is raised. Hives it also stored for the bees' food.
- Bottom Board** — Forms the floor of the hive. Shown with wooden entrance reducer in place to keep mice and some cold out during winter.
- Hive Stand** — Supports the hive off the ground to keep hive bottom dry and insulate hive.

Successful beekeeping means easy manipulation of the frames of brood and honey to provide a "surplus" of honey beyond that needed by the bees to live on and rear their replacements. It is this "surplus" that the beekeeper removes and markets.

Components of the Hive

Equipment Needs

- Veil / Jacket



Bee feeder



- Smoker



- Gloves



- Hive tool



Nice to have...



Shopping List

- Hive Stand (2 concrete blocks)
- Screened bottom board
- 2 Deep or 3 medium (Illinois) Boxes
- Frames and foundation for hive bodies (above)
 - Wooden or plastic frames
 - Pierco
 - Wax foundation
- Honey supers with frames and foundations
- If using wired, wax foundation you will need wire, eyelets, wire crimping tool, and wire embedding tool
- Inner cover
- Telescoping outer cover
- Feeder
- Queen excluder
- Bee suit and veil
- Smoker/propane torch
- Hive tool
- Bee brush
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- Nice to have but not necessary:
 - Frame holder
 - Frame spacer
 - Frame lifter
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- Subscription to *Bee Culture* or *American Bee Journal*
- Warren County Beekeepers Association : www.warrencountybeekeepers.org
- Southwest OH Beekeepers Association: www.southoh.org
- Ohio Beekeepers Association: www.ohiostatebeekeepers.org