

# General Characters of Platyhelminths

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There are the following general characters of Platyhelminths:-

Cells of their body unite and form certain tissue and certain tissue system.

Their body is smooth, bilateral symmetry, ventrally flat and triploblastic.

It has no body cavity. There is loose parenchyma or mesenchyma in between empty spaces of organs.

Except Cestoda class all have segment less body.

It has no endo or exo-skeleton. If hook is present it is made up of sclero protein.

Epidermis is cellular or syncytial.

There are suckers or hooks as adhesive organs.

It has not alimentary canal. If it is present it is branchless. It has no anus.

it has no vascular system and respiratory organ. Respiration is anaerobic.

it has excretory organ, flame cells and protonephridia.

Generally they are bisexual. fertilization is internal and in development. larva is present and also not.

in some species, there is also a sexual reproduction and alternation of generation.

They are also free living, ectoparasite and endoparasite.

Sensitive organs are simple. as in free living, they are chemotrophy.

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