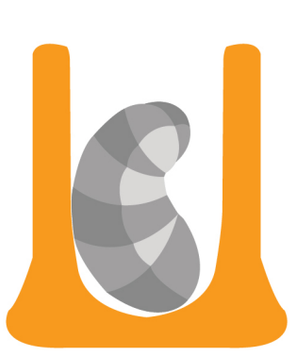
# The Life of a Worker Bee

Worker bees—which make up the majority of the hive—have different tasks depending on their age.

## Day 0-9*
Growth and Development



A honey bee grows from an egg into a larva.

## Day 10-20*
Pupation

The larva spins a cocoon and becomes a pupa. During pupation, the pupa develops into an adult honey bee.

## Day 21-22*
Cleaning

The adult honey bee emerges from its cell and cleans its old home for the next egg.

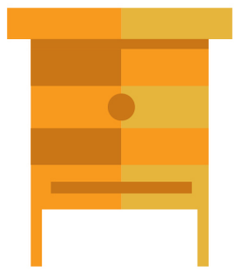
## Day 23-33*
Feeding

The bee—called a nurse—feeds developing larvae, and attends to the queen.

## Day 34-39*
Building

Honey bees build the hive, making wax, managing food supplies and forming new combs for eggs.

## Day 40+*
First Flight



After significant preparations, the bee finally leaves the hive either as a guard or a forager. Honey bees live for another 1-2 weeks, on average, once they begin to collect pollen and nectar.

## Total Lifespan: 40-60 days*

*Average timespan, which can vary depending on environment.

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