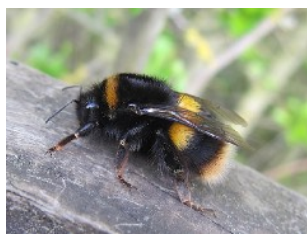




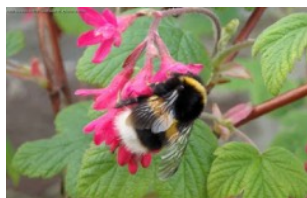
Bees to spot in your garden

These are the most common bees you're likely to find buzzing around your garden, look closely at their size, tail colour and banding patterns.



1. Buff-Tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus terrestris*)

This is one of the largest bumblebees you will see. Queens and workers have two dirty-yellow bands (one on the collar, one on the abdomen). The defining feature is the queen's tail, which is a distinct buff or off-white colour, while the workers have white tails.



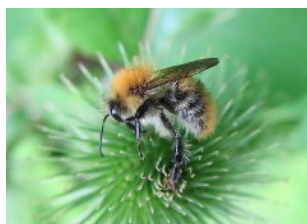
2. White-Tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus lucorum*)

Very similar to the Buff-tailed, but these bees have a much cleaner look. Their yellow bands are a bright, lemon-yellow, and both the queens and workers have a pure, snow-white tail. They are fantastic pollinators for open-faced garden flowers.



3. Red-Tailed Bumblebee (*Bombus lapidarius*)

One of the easiest to identify! Females are strikingly beautiful, with completely jet-black bodies contrasted against a bright, fiery-red tail. The smaller males look like they've been dusted in pollen, sporting extra yellow facial hair and a yellow collar.



4. Common Carder Bee (*Bombus pascuorum*)

Unlike the neatly banded bees, Carder bees look delightfully messy. They are entirely covered in ginger, brown, and tawny hair, with no distinct black bands. They get their name because they "card" (comb) moss and dried grass to weave their nests on the ground surface.



5. Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*)

Unlike wild bumblebees, honeybees are slimmer, more wasp-like in shape, and have relatively smooth, brownish-orange abdomens with black bands. You will often see them in large numbers if there is a managed hive nearby. They are famous for their efficiency in vegetable plots.



6. Red Mason Bee (*Osmia bicornis*)

This is a small, solitary bee (meaning it doesn't live in a colony with a queen). They are covered in dense, fox-red hair and love nesting in the hollow tubes of bee hotels. They are incredibly efficient pollinators—one single female Red Mason bee does the pollination work of roughly 120 honeybees!



A free resource from www.thegardenjungle.co.uk