function of the skeletal system

What does the Skeletal System overall do?

- **Humans have an endoskeleton composed of multiple bones.**
- **The bones have an important role in not only giving the body structure, but also keeping the body in homeostasis on a micro scale.**

1 *support*

By providing a framework for the body, it allows humans to have a distinct shape adapted towards the human way of life. That's why humans look different compared to other animals like cheetahs or birds.

2 *attachment for muscles*

Bones in the Skeletal System are able to act as the base for muscles to attach to. This is great, as when muscles are contracted, the bones don't move, so body movement is able to be made.

3 *protection*

Specific bones act to help protect fragile organs. In the human body, the skull and rib cage are great examples. They help surround organs like the brain and lungs, by adding an additional tough layer of protection.

4 *cell production*

In the center of bones, red and yellow blood marrow are found, where they produce blood cells for the body. They also produce lymphocytes and stem cells inside the bone as well. This one micro-function that bones have that people often don't initially think about.

5 *storing minerals*

Bones are responsible for storing calcium ions, which help keep the body in check. These calcium ions are responsible for maintaining homeostasis overall, since calcium channels of the cell membrane would be affected if thrown out of balance.

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