

I.D. your Bumblebee

Bumblebees can look very similar to one another. To make it easy for you to identify, you only need to record them to the five main colour groups, as shown.

Black Red-tails

All black with a red tail
Commonest species:
Red-tailed bumblebee
(*Bombus lapidarius*)



Banded Red-tails

Yellow stripes with a red tail
Commonest species:
Early bumblebee
(*Bombus pratorum*)



Two-banded White-tails

Two yellow stripes
with a white or buff tail
Commonest species:
Buff-tailed bumblebee
(*Bombus terrestris*) or
White-tailed bumblebee
(*Bombus lucorum*)



Three-banded White-tails

Three yellow stripes
with a white tail
Commonest species:
Garden bumblebee
(*Bombus hortorum*)



Browns

Mostly gingery-brown on
all parts of the body
Commonest species:
Common carder bee
(*Bombus pascuorum*)

