






Q: How do I tell the difference between a wasp and a bee?

Wasps and bees are easily confused from a distance or without close examination. However, there are many different characteristics that can be used to identify them:

CHARACTERISTICS:	Coat/ Colour	Size	Nest preference	Food	Habits
 <p>HONEYBEE</p>	<p>Furry (short hair)</p> <p>Black or brown intermixed with amber</p>	<p>Queen: 1.6cm-1.8cm</p> <p>Worker: 1.2cm-1.4cm</p>	<p>Hollow Trees</p> <p>Roofs</p> <p>Wall cavities</p>	<p>Nectar from flowers</p>	<p>Gentle natured</p> <p>Dies after stinging</p> <p>Swarms in Spring and Summer</p>
 <p>BUMBLEBEE</p>	<p>Furry (long hair)</p> <p>Black and yellow</p>	<p>Queen: 2cm-3cm</p> <p>Worker: 0.8cm-2cm</p>	<p>Cavities in soil</p>	<p>Nectar from flowers</p>	<p>Gentle natured</p> <p>Reluctant to sting</p> <p>Does not swarm</p> <p>Seen from Spring until late Autumn</p>
 <p>SOLITARY BEE</p>	<p>Furry (short hair)</p> <p>Vary in colour</p>	<p>Various sizes. Generally smaller than honeybees</p>	<p>Mortar between bricks</p> <p>Sandy soil</p> <p>Soft cement</p>	<p>Nectar from flowers</p>	<p>Gentle natured</p> <p>Rarely stings</p> <p>Does not swarm</p> <p>Can appear as early as March</p>
 <p>WASP</p>	<p>Little or no hair</p> <p>Bright yellow and black</p>	<p>Queen: About 2cm</p> <p>Worker: 1.2cm-1.8cm</p>	<p>Lofts/attics</p> <p>Wall cavities</p> <p>Hollow trees/ bushes</p>	<p>Insects</p> <p>Sugary drinks</p> <p>Food waste</p>	<p>Aggressive natured</p> <p>Stings readily and repeatedly</p> <p>Does not swarm</p> <p>Common in late Summer</p>
 <p>HORNET</p>	<p>Some hair</p> <p>Chestnut brown and yellow</p>	<p>Queen: About 3.5cm</p> <p>Worker: 2cm-3cm</p>	<p>Tree trunks</p> <p>Hollow walls</p> <p>Attics</p>	<p>Mainly insects</p>	<p>Only stings when provoked</p> <p>Can bite and sting at the same time</p> <p>Does not swarm</p> <p>Seen between May and September</p>