

# Carpenter Bee Identification Guide

## What Do Carpenter Bees Look Like

By DoMyOwn staff

### OVERVIEW

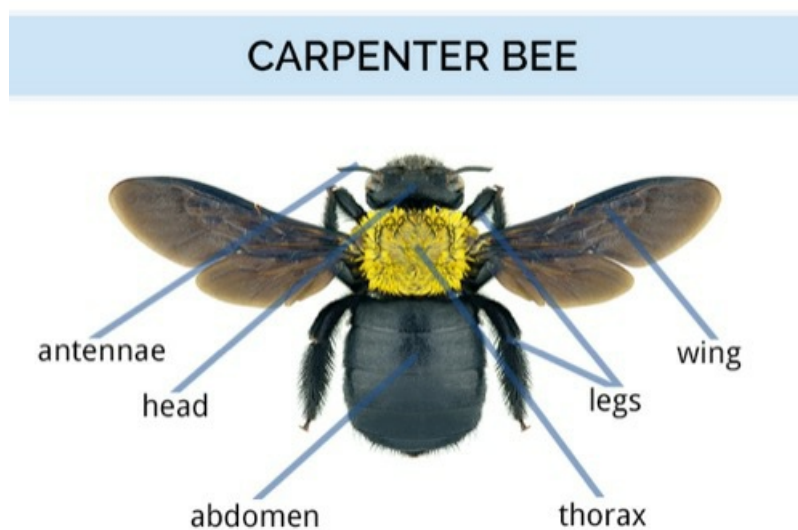


Carpenter bees are often confused with bumble bees but there are definitely some distinguishing features that can help you tell a carpenter bee from a bumble bee.

### SIZE

Carpenter bees are typically 1/2" to 1" long.

### SHAPE



- Carpenter bees have six legs
- Carpenter bees have two sets of wings
- Carpenter Bees have three body segments: head, thorax and abdomen
- Male carpenter bees do not (cannot) sting. Female carpenter bees are able to sting but must be extremely agitated before they will do so.

## COLOR

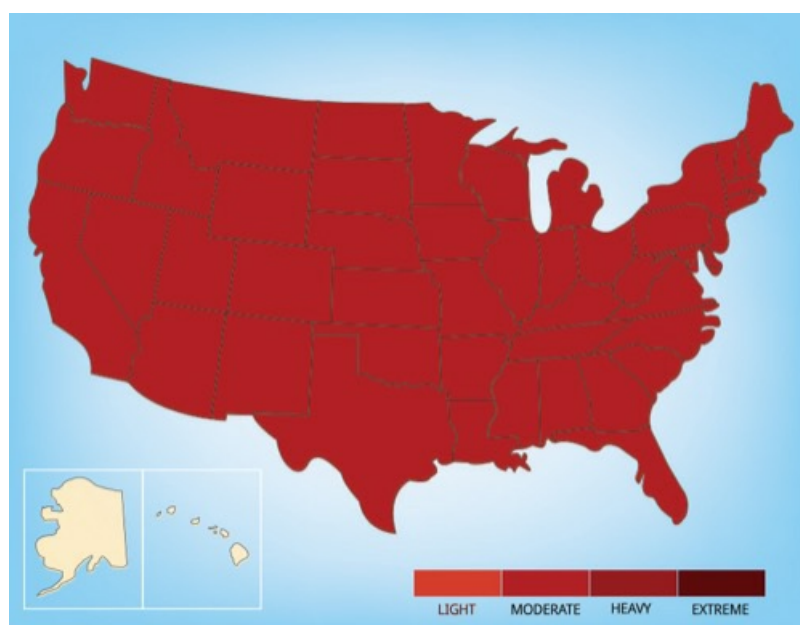


- Carpenter bees have a fuzzy yellow and black front end
- Carpenter bees have a dark shiny, hairless back end
- Male carpenter bees have a white or cream colored dot on the head

## NEST/DAMAGE

Another way to identify carpenter bees (vs bumblebees) is to look at the damage they cause. For information and images of carpenter bee damage, see our [carpenter bee inspection guide](#).

## RANGE



There are several species of carpenter bees in the US and they can be found in most areas.

If you believe you have a carpenter bee nest or have seen what you believe to be a male carpenter bee or a female carpenter bee (vs bumblebee), click the right arrow below to read our [Carpenter Bee Inspection Guide](#) and learn more about where carpenter bees are found.