

# Bone Graft Definition

---

**S** [www.spine-health.com/glossary/bone-graft](http://www.spine-health.com/glossary/bone-graft)

A bone graft is the bone transplanted from a donor site to a recipient site to facilitate the fusion of vertebrae in lumbar surgery. The grafting tissue is necessary for osteoinduction - the process of building new bone - to occur.

During spinal fusion surgery, the [bone graft](#) is placed into the disc space or in other places between the two vertebrae - and acts as a calcium scaffolding for the patient's new bone to grow on.

Tissue can either be harvested from the patient's iliac crest (part of the pelvis), called [autograft bone](#), or from a donor bone (e.g. cadaver bone), called [allograft bone](#), or some type of bone graft substitute (synthetic bone) may be used.

## Related Articles

[Bone Graft for Spine Fusion](#)

[Bone Graft Site Pain and Morbidity After Spinal Fusion](#)