

Confused by 'terms' for the parts of the hive

Floor – the bottom layer of a hive – either on an attached stand or placed on blocks or similar to raise it off the ground – for the sake of your back and to prevent direct contact with the ground

- **Open mesh floor** – instead of being solid the central section has mesh to allow debris and mites to drop out of the hive – this is also known as a **Varroa floor**

Brood box – the lowest, and usually the larger, four-sided bottomless and topless box occupied by the Queen and the brood.

- **Deep** – same hive part, when being used for honey rather than brood

Queen Excluder – a flat grid-like sheet, within a shallow frame with the same dimensions as the brood box, through which the worker bees can pass but which prevents the queen from moving up from the brood chamber.

Super – four-sided box (as above but with less depth) which is so-called because it is placed above something else. That something else can be a queen excluder or a clearer board (see below)

- **Shallow** – same hive part, when being used for brood rather than honey

Cover Board – flat sheet of thin wood, within a shallow frame with the same dimensions as the boxes. There will be one or more holes, usually elliptical but sometimes circular, in the cover board

- **Crown Board** – given this name, when it is at the top of the stack, immediately below the hive roof
- **Clearer Board** – given this name when, with 'bee escapes' fitted into the holes, it is placed below a super of frames of capped honey, allowing the bees to go down but preventing them from returning.

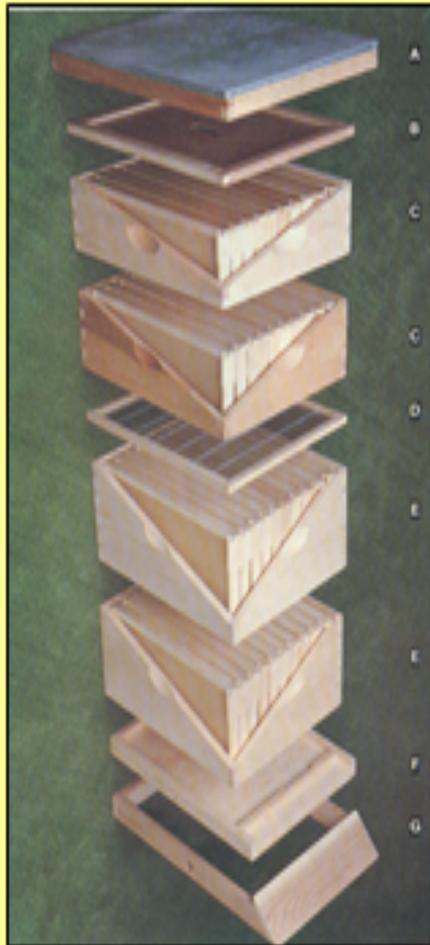
Roof – no explanation needed but can be flat or pitched.

Frames – both **Deep** and **Shallow** – usually the deep frames are in the brood box and the shallow frames are in the supers and they vary in size according to the hive type.

Foundation – not make-up and not old-fashioned boned undergarments but thin sheets of wax impressed with honeycomb hexagons.

- **Deep** and **Shallow** – in different sizes to fit the frames, which in turn fit the different types of hives.
 - **Wired** – to give added strength
 - **Unwired** – needs careful handling

Hive components



ROOF

CROWN BOARD

SUPER

SUPER

QUEEN EXCLUDER

BROOD CHAMBER 2

BROOD CHAMBER 1

FLOOR

STAND/ALIGHTING BOARD