Australopithecus (approx. 1.2 to 4 million years ago)

"Southern Ape"

Appearance

- Apelike but walked on 2 legs
- Small brains
- Teeth similar to today

Tool Use/Technologies

- Used simple tools
- Ex. Twigs to get ants out of hill

Food

- Frugivores (fruits) & herbivores (tough plants)
- Scavengers (searched for food)
- Prey for predators

Homo Habilis (2-1.5 million years ago)

"Handyman"

Appearance

- Walked upright on 2 legs
- Long, dangling arms
- Fully opposable thumbs

Tools/Technologies

- Made crude shelters from branches
- Used stone as tools
- Knocked flakes off stones for tools
- Not skillful hunters
- Tools for chopping, scraping, and cutting

Food

- Omnivores (plants & raw meat)
- Meat from dead carcasses
- Scavengers

Homo Erectus (1.6 million to 80,000 years ago)

"Upright Man"

Appearance

- More humanlike than earlier humans
- As tall as we are now, although stronger
- Bigger brains than Homo Habilis

Tools/Technologies

- Discovered fire and how to create it
- Made more complex tools
- Ex. Hand axe, butchering tools (flints, spears)
- Tools used for hunting
- Caves and interlocking branches for shelters

Food

• Omnivores (small animals)

Homo Sapiens (Neanderthals) - 133,000 to 32,000 years ago

Appearance

Smarter than earlier humans

Tools/Technologies

- Made stone knives, spears, and harpoons
- Built shelters and other structures for protection

Other

- Buried their dead
- Wore simple clothes
- Lived alongside other Homo Sapiens species, but died out

Homo Sapiens (Cro-Magnon) - 100,000 to 10,000 years ago

Appearance

- Bigger brains
- Burial sites included beads, fur garments, and ivory jewelry
- Capacity for complex thinking

Tools/Technologies

- Tools to hunt, fish, paint, draw, sew, make music, and fight
- Made fish hooks and needles from antlers
- Made lamps from animal fat

Food

• Grew barley, rice, oats, sunflowers, and beans

Other

- Lascaux caves
- Lived alongside Neanderthals

Homo Sapiens Sapiens – 10,000 years ago to present "Wise Man"

Appearance

• Species modern-day humans belong to

Tools/Technologies

- Superior tool-making skills (Ex. Weaving baskets from reed)
- Precisely-made tools
- Human civilization finally possible