

	Australopithecines (afarensis, africanus, robustus, and boisei)	Homo habilis: “Handy Man”	Homo erectus	Homo neanderthalensis	Homo sapiens
Date of appearance	3-5 m.y.a in Africa	2.3 – 1.8 m.y.a in Africa	First to migrate out of Africa into Asia and Europe 50 000 y.a	Southern Europe during the Ice Age Went extinct 24 000 y.a	195 000 y.a to present Migrated out of Africa and dispersed and interbred with H. erectus and H. neanderthalensis.
Physical Anatomical features	More apelike, stocky build First evidence of bipedalism and upright posture. Gracile: afarensis and africanus Robust: robustus and boisei	Larger brain	Larger brain Unique prominent brow ridges	Tend to be short and stocky Enlarged occipital bun Large cranium, but no forehead	Less prognathic Large cranium, forehead, reduced brow ridges Gracile
Culture Tools	Tended to just use simple tools such as pebbles, rocks, and wood. Oldowan	First stone tools – Oldowan Still very simple stone tools perhaps with one sharp edge	Acheulian	Mousterian	Aurignacian, solutrean, magdalenian
Diet	Mainly vegetarian	Mainly vegetarian, some raw meat	Increase in meat consumption (cooked due to fire)	Quite high meat consumption	Omnivorous
Hunting	no hunting	Scavenged meat	Hunter gatherer – pressure of socialisation and language	Skilled/more organised hunting for larger animals	Hunting large herds, specialised (fishing), steady food supply from agriculture .
Use of Fire	no fire	no fire	Introduction to fire – survival and population increase	Use and control of fire	:D
Shelter	Tree dwellings and home bases	home bases	Simple huts	Caves	Permanent, man-made dwellings, such as villages, towns, and cities
Communication/ Language	No language	Very basic language, e.g. noises	Basic language	Increasingly complex language	Complex language and writing
Art	Nah	Nah	Nah	Cave paintings Reflection of beliefs and form of communication	Portable art and murals Body decorations
Rituals & customs				Ceremonial burial of the dead – decorated graves with flowers and animal parts Cared for the young, disabled, and elderly Believed in the afterlife ritualistic cannibalism :D	Extremely complex spiritual and religious beliefs Ceremonial burials Cared for the young, disabled, and the elderly
Agriculture	None	None	None	None	Yay – introduction of the domestication of plants and animals basic irrigation and damming Social differentiation – different roles, more time for other pursuits Change from nomadic to personal settlements and villages.
Clothing	None	None	None	Simple clothing made of animal hides b/c of the cold of the ice age.	

