

Source: [KBhBIO101CellMembranes](#)

1 | Fluid mosaic model of cell membrane

Some Phospholipids connected as a “phospholipid bi-layer” (see [KBhBIO101StructuresOfLipids](#)) structure

- Charged head
- Nonpolar tail

So, head aligns and tail aligns, creating the basic structure of the membrane:

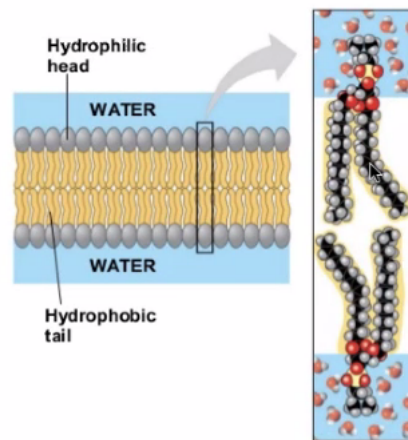


Figure 1: Screen Shot 2020-09-09 at 3.08.10 PM.png

This is called the “fluid mosaic” model because there is nothing holding these together.

Stuff in the membrane

Cholesterol

Helps cells communicate

Proteins

- Makes sure the right molecules gets in/out
- Nonpolar Oxygen + CO₂ could easily get through
- Polar and charged molecules can't get through, unless...
- Channeled proteins let specific polar particles through