What Bug Is That?

Insects belong to different groups called Orders. What Order does your insect belong to?

One pair of wings

- Hind wings reduced to tiny knobs → FLIES
- Tip of abdomen with 2-3 thread-like tails → MAYFLIES

Two pairs of wings

Front wings rigid to form protective covering for clear hind wings

- YES → •Sucking mouthparts that look like a beak •Front wings with clear tips that overlap to form a "V" panel on the back → TRUE BUGS
- NO → Rigid front wings meet in a straight line down the back → BEETLES
  - NO → Head hidden from above by hood-like structure → COCKROACHES
  - YES → • Front legs with strong prominent spines for grasping prey • Hind legs long & slender → MANTIDS
- NO → Front & hind wings have similar texture
  - YES → •Wings covered with powdery scales •Mouthparts like a coiled tube → BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS
  - NO → Wings slope downwards like a roof
    - NO → Front & hind wings similar shape and size
      - YES → Body with a narrow "waist" → WASPS, BEES, ANTS
      - NO → Antennae always short & bristly
        - NO → • Wings held flat over abdomen • Last abdominal segment not enlarged • Found in colonies
          - NO → SCORPIONFLIES
          - YES → TERMITES
        - YES → DRAGONFLIES
    - YES → Wings covered with hair
      - NO → • Sucking mouthparts that look like a beak • Often short, bristly antennae • Body may look like a thorn
        - NO → Wings with many cross-veins
          - NO → BARK LICE
          - YES → LACEWINGS
        - YES → LEAFHOPPERS
      - YES → CADDISFLIES

GRASSHOPPERS & CRICKETS

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Further information

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