



Rosaceae—Rose Family

Family Features

A very variable family of trees shrubs and herbs.

- Five free petals
- Five free sepals
- Epicalyx sometimes present
- Often many stamens
- Ovary position usually inferior in epigynous flowers sometimes superior in perigynous flowers
- Fruit variously a drupe, follicle or achene sometimes surrounded by a succulent hypanthium



Perigynous flower with superior ovary surrounded by a hypanthium.

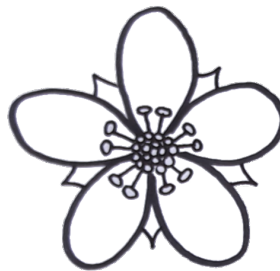


Epigynous flower with inferior ovary below the floral axis.

Example species

Fragaria vesca –Wild Strawberry

Top view of flower

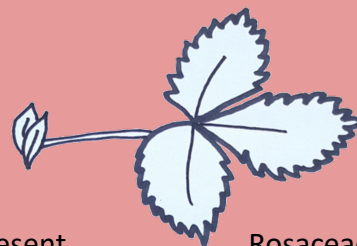


Numerous carpels becoming achenes on the accessory fruit of an epigynous flower.

Basal view of flower



Epicalyx of bracts below the true calyx giving the impression of double the number of sepals.



Stipules present at the base of the petiole.

Rosaceae family have alternate leaves, often pinnate and the leaves are usually toothed.