

DIGESTIVE SYSTEM FUNCTIONS

Organ	Primary Function	Key Secretions / Enzymes
Mouth	Mechanical breakdown via mastication; initiation of starch digestion.	<i>Salivary Amylase, Lingual Lipase</i>
Esophagus	Transport of bolus to stomach via peristalsis.	<i>Mucus (Lubrication)</i>
Stomach	Chemical breakdown of proteins; churning of food into chyme.	<i>Pepsin, Gastric Lipase, Hydrochloric Acid (HCl)</i>
Small Intestine	Primary site of nutrient absorption and final chemical digestion.	<i>Maltase, Lactase, Sucrase, Peptidases</i>
Pancreas	Secretes digestive enzymes into the duodenum and neutralizes acid.	<i>Trypsin, Chymotrypsin, Pancreatic Amylase, Lipase</i>
Liver / Gallbladder	Production and storage of bile for lipid emulsification.	<i>Bile Salts (not an enzyme)</i>
Large Intestine	Water and electrolyte absorption; vitamin synthesis by gut flora.	<i>Mucus, Bacterial Enzymes</i>