

BRAIN STEM TRACTS REFERENCE GUIDE

ASCENDING (SENSORY) PATHWAYS			
SENSORY Dorsal Column (Gracilis/Cuneatus)	DRG → Thalamus	Fine touch, vibration, conscious proprioception	Medulla
SENSORY Lateral Spinothalamic	Spinal Cord → Thalamus	Pain and temperature sensations	Spinal Cord
SENSORY Anterior Spinothalamic	Spinal Cord → Thalamus	Crude touch and pressure	Spinal Cord
SENSORY Spinocerebellar	Spinal Cord → Cerebellum	Unconscious proprioception for coordination	Variable
DESCENDING (MOTOR) PATHWAYS			
MOTOR Lateral Corticospinal	Motor Cortex → Spinal Cord	Voluntary movement (fine motor of limbs)	Medullary Pyramids
MOTOR Anterior Corticospinal	Motor Cortex → Spinal Cord	Voluntary movement (proximal/axial muscles)	Spinal Level
MOTOR Rubrospinal	Red Nucleus → Spinal Cord	Fine control of hand/upper limb flexion	Midbrain

MOTOR Vestibulospinal	Vestibular Nuclei â†' Cord	Balance and postural adjustments	Uncrossed
MOTOR Reticulospinal	Reticular Formation â†' Cord	Automatic gait and autonomic functions	Mostly Uncrossed