

Endoplasmic Reticulum

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In the previous segment of the chapter 'Cell - The Fundamental Unit of Life', we learnt about the **Nucleus**. In this segment, let us get ourselves introduced to the cell organelle, Endoplasmic Reticulum.

What is Endoplasmic reticulum?

The transportation system of the cell which carries out various important functions is called the **Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER)**.

It is a long tube which is bound by a membrane. This tube is placed around the nucleus and moves outward throughout the cell.



There are two distinct types of tubes in this network:

- Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum (RER) This part of the tube has some granular structures attached to it called the Ribosomes. The tubes of RER appear rough due to ribosomes.
- **Smooth Endoplasmic Reticulum (SER)** This part is a plain tube. It lacks ribosomes and so the tubes of this part appear smooth.



Both the tubes of RER and SER form a network throughout the cell which assists the movement of substances throughout the cytoplasm.





Summary

Endoplasmic Reticulum	The transportation system of the cell which carries out various important functions is called the Endoplasmic Reticulum .
Types of Tubes in ER	 Rough Endoplasmic Reticulum (RER) Smooth Endoplasmic Reticulum (SER)

What's next?

In our next segment of Class 09 Science, we will learn **More about the endoplasmic** reticulum.