

FAMILY MALVACEAE

Herbs, shrubs, or rarely small trees

Leaves alternate

Leaves simple

Leaves often palmately lobed and veined

Flowers solitary or in cymes

Flowers usually bisexual

Flowers actinomorphic

Calyx of 3-5 more or less united sepals

Corolla of five separate petals

Androecium of numerous stamens united by their filaments to form a filament tube

Gynoecium of 5 to many united carpels, often five with five chamber in the ovary and **five distinct stigmas**

Ovary superior

Fruit a capsule, schizocarp, sometimes a berry or samara

Some Common Names: Mallow, Hollyhock, Hibiscus

Some Important Plants: Cotton, Okra, Ornamentals

Member of Subclass Dilleniidae

	Primitive	Advanced
Sepals		
3-5		x
United		x
Petals		
5		x
Separate	x	
Stamens		
Numerous	x	
United		x
Pistil		
1 pistil		x
5 united carpels		x
Ovary superior	x	
Symmetry		
Actinomorphic	x	