

Level	Injuries
C1	Jefferson fracture—blow-out injury of the ring with anterior and posterior arch fractures
C2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dens fractures: type A—tip only; type B—base of dens; type C—subdental; suspect if &gt;5 mm between anterior arch of C1 and the odontoid peg</li> <li>Hangman's fracture—bilateral arch fracture</li> </ul>
C3–T1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subluxation (&gt;25% loss of alignment) or dislocation (&gt;50% loss of alignment between adjacent vertebrae)—suspect if increased prevertebral soft tissue swelling</li> <li>Clay-shoveller fracture—avulsion of C6, C7 or T1 spinous process</li> </ul>
Thoracolumbar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wedge fracture—&gt;2 mm difference between the anterior and posterior height of the vertebral body (may be normal at T11–L1)</li> <li>Chance fracture—oblique or horizontal split of spinous process and neural arch extending to the superoposterior vertebral body/disc</li> <li>Horizontal fissure fracture—variant with fracture line extending to the anterior vertebral body</li> <li>Thoracic fractures may be accompanied by paravertebral haematomas, producing mediastinal widening and an apical cap</li> </ul>

