

# What kind of bird is that?

When identifying birds, start by observing their location and behavior. Is the bird up high, making noise? Or is it on the ground, digging in leaves?

Next, observe its appearance. Is it big like a crow, or small like a sparrow? Does it have pointy wings, or a long tail? What color is it? And what sort of markings does it have?

These things can help you identify the birds you are looking at!

## Check off the birds you find on your hike today!



○ **Great Blue Heron**  
*Ardea herodias*  
squawking “roh-roh-roh”  
or rapid “frawnk” squawk



○ **Canada Goose**  
*Branta canadensis*  
loud honks, barks,  
and cackles



○ **Carolina Chickadee**  
*Poecile carolinensis*  
“chicka-dee-dee-dee”



○ **Belted Kingfisher**  
*Megaceryle alcyon*  
harsh, mechanical rattles



○ **Eastern Bluebird**  
*Sialia sialis*  
soft, low “tu-a-wee”



○ **Red-bellied Woodpecker**  
*Melanerpes carolinus*  
rolling “kwirr”



○ **Carolina Wren**  
*Thryothorus ludovicianus*  
quick, whistle. “teakettle”



○ **Mourning Dove**  
*Zenaida macroura*  
“coo-OO oo oo oo”



○ **Mallard**  
*Anas platyrhynchos*  
standard duck’s quack,  
but males make quieter  
rasping sound



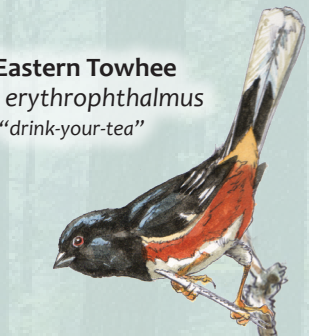
○ **Wood Thrush**  
*Hylocichla mustelina*  
flute-like “ee-oh-lay”



○ **Northern Cardinal**  
*Cardinalis cardinalis*  
“cheer-cheer-cheer”



○ **American Crow**  
*Corvus brachyrhynchos*  
“caw, caw, caw”



○ **Eastern Towhee**  
*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*  
“drink-your-tea”



○ **Brown-headed Nuthatch**  
*Sitta pusilla*  
High-pitched squeak,  
like a rubber duck





# Birds of the Woods & Wetlands

Whether perching in the trees, wading in the shallows, flying overhead, or singing from the shrubs, many types of birds specialize in a life in the woods and wetlands. Use this brochure to see how many birds you can find on your hike today.



○ Red-shouldered Hawk  
*Buteo lineatus*  
“kee-aah”

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## Field Marks

In addition to size, shape, location and behavior, field marks can be used to help identify birds. If you can't identify a bird on your hike, remembering what certain parts of the bird looked like can help you identify it when you get home. On your birding adventure, try to find a bird you don't know and see if it has any of the following field marks:

☐ **wing bars**  
Does the bird have wing bars or patches?

☐ **nape**  
Is the bird's nape a different color?

☐ **crown**  
Does the bird have a colored "cap" or a crest on its head?

☐ **eyestripe**  
Does the bird have a stripe through the eye?

☐ **eyebrow**  
Does the bird have an eyebrow? What color?

☐ **tail bars**  
Are there any stripes across the bird's tail?

☐ **belly**  
What color is the bird's belly?

☐ **side**  
Does the bird have coloring on the sides?

☐ **breast**  
Does the breast have speckles or bands of color?

☐ **throat**  
Is the bird's throat a different color?

☐ **tail markings**  
Does the bird have white edges on its tail or a different color on the tip?

☐ **beak or bill**  
What shape and color are the beak?

☐ **Blue Jay**  
*Cyanocitta cristata*  
harsh "jayy"

