

# 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!



○ **Blue Jay**  
*Cyanocitta cristata*  
shrill “jay, jay, jay” or “jeer, jeer”

○ **Cedar Waxwing**  
*Bombycilla cedrorum*  
a high-pitched, trilled “bzeee” and a sighing whistle



○ **Northern Cardinal**  
*Cardinalis cardinalis*  
loud “cheer, cheer, cheer”



○ **Carolina Wren**  
*Thryothorus ludovicianus*  
three, quick, whistled notes with a rhythm like “teakettle”



Illustrations by David Williams  
Wingin' It Works



○ **American Robin**  
*Turdus migratorius*  
clear whistles like “cheerily, cheer up, cheer up, cheerily, cheer up”



○ **American Crow**  
*Corvus brachyrhynchos*  
a mixture of hoarse or grating “coos,” “caws,” rattles, and clicks



○ **Rock Pigeon**  
*Columba livia*  
rolling series of throaty “coos”



○ **Bald Eagle**  
*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*  
 series of high-pitched whistling or  
 piping notes



# Birds of the Wateree River

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

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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:



- **tail bars**  
Are there any stripes across the bird's tail?
- **tail markings**  
Does the bird have white edges on its tail or a different color on the tip?
- **wing bars**  
Does the bird have wing bars or patches?
- **nape**  
Is the bird's nape a different color?
- **eyestripe**  
Does the bird have a stripe through the eye?
- **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?
- **eyebrow**  
Does the bird have an eyebrow? What color?
- **throat**  
Is the bird's throat a different color?
- **beak or bill**  
What shape and color are the beak?
- **crown**  
Does the bird have a colored "cap" or a crest on its head?

○ **Wood Duck**  
 Aix sponsa  
 Female makes loud "oo-eek, oo-eek" when disturbed. Male has rising and falling zeeing whistle.