



# Can You Find These Common Birds?



**Name:** Carolina Chickadee

**Size:** 4 ½ - 5 Inches

**Color:** Both males and females have the same colors and markings. These little birds are mostly gray with a black cap, white cheeks, black throat, and tan belly.

**Behavior:** Chickadees are very common forest birds, but they are also frequent visitors to backyard bird feeders. They are often the center of a mixed flock of songbirds.



**Name:** Northern Cardinal

**Size:** 8 - 9 Inches

**Color:** Males are bright red with a black mask on their face. They have a large red crest and bill. Females are a buff brown or caramel color with hints of red on crest and wings. They also have a red bill and a lighter black mask than the males.

**Behavior:** They forage mainly for seeds in dense shrubbery, but they are also very commonly seen at feeders or in more urban habitats. Cardinals are a common songbird and can be heard singing year-round.



**Name:** Red-bellied Woodpecker

**Size:** 9 - 10 inches

**Color:** These birds do have a red belly, but you will almost never see it. To ID these woodpeckers look for zebra striping on its back and the red mohawk on its head.

**Behavior:** You can find Red-bellies in forests and suburban areas. They prefer deciduous trees and can also be found in backyards at birdfeeders. In the winter they can be called in using a bird calling app.



**Name:** Belted Kingfisher

**Size:** 13 Inches

**Color:** The bill is dark, long, thick and pointed for catching fish. They are a slate blue on top with a shaggy crest and a white belly. There is a blue belt across the breast of the males and rust orange and blue belts on the females.

**Behavior:** These birds are very solitary. You will most likely see them hanging out by streams and rivers. They will perch in a tree or fly over the water looking for fish and dive headfirst into the water to catch their prey.



**Name:** Great Blue Heron

**Size:** 3.2 - 4.5 Feet

**Color:** Over all gray-blue color with a streak of black on head from behind the eye through the crest. They have a long yellow dagger-like bill.

**Behavior:** They wade through shallow water on long, lanky legs stalking fish and other aquatic pray. Very quiet and can easily be overlooked because of their slow movements and good camouflage.





**Name: Turkey Vulture**

**Size:** 2 ½ feet with a 6-foot wingspan

**Color:** Appears dark when perched with a bare pink or red head. When flying the wings are two toned from underneath; with the entire trailing edge of the wing appearing light gray or silver in color.

**Behavior:** You will most likely see them soaring high in the sky. They only flap their wings occasionally; saving energy by using wind currents to soar for long periods of time while looking for carrion to eat. They are scavengers and play a very important role in their ecosystem.



**Name: White-breasted Nuthatch**

**Size:** 5 - 5.5 inches

**Color:** White face contrasts nicely with black cap. They are slate blue/gray on back and wings with hints of black. Their breasts and belly are light gray with brown under the tail.

**Behavior:** They live in various habitats from old growth forests to parks, backyards, and suburbs. They prefer mature trees and can be seen creeping along branches and even flipping upside down looking for bugs and seeds to eat.



**Name: Red-tailed Hawk**

**Size:** 18 - 26 Inches

**Color:** The Red-tail gets its name from its bright red tail. They usually have a cream color breast and belly with a band of black streaks across the breast. The juveniles don't have the red tail.

**Behavior:** These birds are common along highways and old fields. They like to perch high on telephone poles and tree branches watching for prey with a hawk's eye.



**Name: Northern Mockingbird**

**Size:** 10 inches

**Color:** Both males and females are silver/gray with a light-colored belly when perched. When they fly you can see a white outline on the tail and white patches on the wings that are hidden when the bird is perched.

**Behavior:** Mockingbirds are known for their impressive mimicry skills. They will imitate other songbirds and frogs; and even car alarms and sirens. They are at home in the forests or old fields as well as suburban and urban. habitats.



**Name: Wood Duck**

**Size:** 17 - 22 Inches

**Color:** Males have a green head and crest with a red eye. Their body is very colorful with an iridescent back with white high lights and a rust colored chest with gold flecks. The females are much plainer in color but still have a small crest on top of their head with a bright white eye ring.

**Behavior:** These ducks prefer wetlands or flooded woodlands. They are excellent at maneuvering through woodlands due to their long tail. They are cavity nesters and will move into old woodpecker holes to make their nests. The baby chicks will leap from the nest to the ground on the day they hatch. Wood Ducks are shy and are easily scared off but if you see one, they are bright and beautiful!

