

# Texas Bird BINGO

HILL COUNTRY REGION



**HOW TO PLAY:** As you see the bird(s) identified on the card, tag them with an "X" or some other mark. Cover a row of birds in any of three directions (horizontally, vertically or diagonally) and you've got a Bird Bingo! Email your completed Bird Bingo card to [hillcountry@texasbirdbingo.com](mailto:hillcountry@texasbirdbingo.com) for a chance to win a birding excursion with a Texas Audubon master birder. For complete rules and information, visit [texasbirdbingo.com](http://texasbirdbingo.com)



VERMILION FLYCATCHER



INDIGO BUNTING



YELLOW-BREADED CHAT



BULLOCK'S ORIOLE



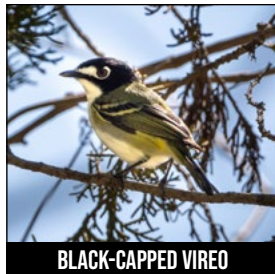
SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER



RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW



LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER



BLACK-CAPPED VIREO



GREATER ROADRUNNER



GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER



BELTED KINGFISHER



YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO



HILL COUNTRY REGION



TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE



PURPLE MARTIN



CANYON WREN



NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD



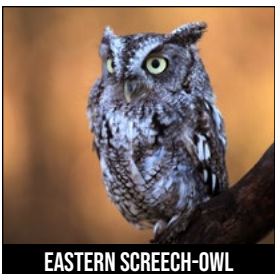
CHIHUAHUAN RAVEN



AMERICAN GOLDFINCH



WOODHOUSE'S SCRUB JAY



EASTERN SCREECH-OWL



BLUE GROSBEAK



ZONE-TAILED HAWK



NORTHERN CARDINAL



GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE



**Balcones Songbird Festival**



# BIRD BINGO IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Courtesy of Audubon Texas

## AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

4 1/2-5" (11-13 cm). Summer male bright yellow with black wings, tail, and forehead. Summer female duller yellow-green. Winter birds vary from yellowish brown to gray; note bold wing-bars (white or buff) on black wings, white tail spots.

## BELTED KINGFISHER

13" (33 cm). Unmistakable in most areas; near Mexican border, see Ringed Kingfisher and Belted Kingfisher. Female has two chest bands, blue-gray and rusty; the latter is lacking on males.

## BLACK-CAPPED VIREO

4 1/2 - 4 3/4" (11-12 cm). Male's black hood contrasts with white spectacles and throat, red eyes. Greenish back, yellow wash on sides, with two wing-bars. Female has slaty, not black, head; suggests Blue-headed Vireo but smaller, with much darker head.

## BLUE GROSBEEK

6-7 1/2" (15-19 cm). Very thick bill, wide buff or cinnamon wing-bars. Male very dark blue, female warm brown. Indigo Bunting slimmer, has smaller bill, lacks obvious wing-bars; female Indigo has streaks or mottling on chest.

## BULLOCK'S ORIOLE

7-8 1/2" (18-22 cm). Male resembles male Baltimore Oriole but has orange face, more white in wing, different tail pattern. Female usually not as orange as female Baltimore, with grayer back, whiter belly, darker eyeline, but some not safely identified.

## CANYON WREN

5 1/2 - 6" (14-15 cm). Mostly dark chestnut with clear white throat and

chest. Long, thin bill. Black bars on short reddish tail. Beautiful song is heard more often than the bird is seen.

## CHIHUAHUA RAVEN

19-21" (48-53 cm). Shape of Common Raven but slightly smaller, with smaller bill, different voice. Usually in open grassland (in southwest, Common Raven is mostly in mountains or in drier cactus desert).

## EASTERN SCREECH-OWL

10" (25 cm). Small, with short "ear" tufts that may be raised or flattened, changing appearance of head shape. Overall color varies: commonly gray, can be reddish or brown. Base of bill yellow-green.

## GOLDEN-CHEEKED WARBLER

4 1/2-5" (11-13 cm). Male's bright gold cheeks contrast with black crown and back, black eyeline. Female much like female Black-throated Green, may show darker eyeline, whiter belly.

## GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE

Male, 16-18" (41-46 cm); female, 12-15 (30-38 cm). Very long tail, yellow eyes. Male glossy black, more evenly colored than Common Grackle and much larger. Female buff below and on eyebrow, smaller than male. Compare to Boat-tailed Grackle.

## GREATER ROADRUNNER

24" (61 cm). Very distinctive elongated shape, with long bill, strong legs. Shows streaky pattern, long tail with white spots. Shaggy crest may be raised or lowered.

## INDIGO BUNTING

5 1/2" (14 cm). Adult male is dark blue in spring/summer (see Blue Grosbeak). Female and fall male are brown, usually with fine streaks on chest, blue tinge on tail. One-year-old male in summer may be blue with white belly.

## LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER

7" (18 cm). Similar to Nuttall's but

with more white on face, wider white bars on back (especially noticeable on upper back). Drier habitat and different range are best clues. The two species sometimes interbreed where their ranges meet.

## NORTHERN CARDINAL

8-9" (20-23 cm). Male is unmistakable, our only red bird with a crest. (Compare to tanagers.) Female is duller, but shares crest, massive pink bill, rather long tail. In southwest, compare to Pyrrhuloxia. Juvenile has black bill at first.

## NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD

9-11" (23-28 cm). Slim and long-tailed. Pale gray with white wing patches (mainly visible in flight), white outer tail feathers. Juvenile has dark streaks on chest, darker eyes than adult.

## PURPLE MARTIN

7-8 1/2" (18-22 cm). Our biggest swallow. Angular, pointed wings, forked tail. Male glossy blue-black all over, female and young grayer below, with white belly. Starlings are somewhat similar and will nest in martin houses, but have longer bills, browner wings, different behavior.

## RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW

5-6" (13-15 cm). Rusty crown, white eye-ring, heavy dark whisker mark; looks big-billed, flat-headed. Swamp Sparrow in very different habitat; Chipping and other rusty-capped sparrows more petite, less secretive.

## SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER

14" (36 cm). Pale overall with dusky wings, streaming black-and-white tail (slightly shorter on female), orange-pink on sides and under wings. Young bird has shorter tail; resembles Western Kingbird but paler.

## TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE

8-9 1/2" (20-24 cm). Slim, long-tailed, perches upright. Smooth gray with white eye-ring, white outer tail feathers. Buff

wing patch shows in flight. Mockingbird perches more horizontally, lacks eye-ring. Juvenile quite different, heavily spotted.

## VERMILION FLYCATCHER

6" (15 cm). Male's pattern unmistakable, with black back and wings, red crown and underparts (compare to Scarlet Tanager). Female and young mostly gray and white with faint streaks on chest, wash of pink or yellow on belly; note tail-dipping habit.

## WOODHOUSE'S SCRUB-JAY

11 1/2" (29 cm). Slim and moderately long-tailed. Dull blue on head, wings, and tail, grayer on center of back. Underparts mostly light gray, with the slightly paler throat set off by a hint of a blue chest band. Formerly treated as part of same species as California Scrub-Jay, which is brighter blue with a more contrasting throat. Mexican Jay looks heavier bodied, plainer gray below, and has different voice.

## YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO

10 1/2-12 1/2" (27-32 cm). From below, long tail looks black, with big white spots. Rusty red in wing is obvious in flight. Yellow on lower mandible shows at close range. Juveniles in fall may have paler, duller tail pattern, less yellow on bill.

## YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT

7" (18 cm). Much larger than most warblers, with thick bill and long tail. Bright yellow throat and breast (may even look orange) contrasting with white belly, olive back. Sharp white "spectacles" on dark face. Common Yellowthroat much smaller, with different face pattern.

## ZONE-TAILED HAWK

18 1/2 - 21 1/2" (47-55 cm). W. 4' (1.2 m). Flying at a distance, looks much like Turkey Vulture: blackish body, two-toned wings, soars with wings held in shallow V. With closer view, shows a few white tail-bands, narrow barring on wings, slightly different shape from vulture. Juvenile may lack obvious white tail-bands.



Bandera is your birding destination. In west Bandera County, you'll find **Lost Maples State Natural Area**, one of the premier wildlife viewing destinations in Texas. The park provides habitat for the Golden-cheeked Warbler, Black-capped Vireo, Zone-tailed Hawk, Green Kingfisher,

Canyon Wren and Summer Tanager. During Spring, the Black-capped Vireo and Golden-cheeked Warbler can also be found at the nearby **Hill Country State Natural Area**. Its woodland edge provides views of many songbirds, including Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Wood Pewee, Bewick's Wren, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting and Lesser Goldfinch. For additional birding opportunities, visit **Bandera City Park**. In addition to beautiful-cypress lined banks along the Medina River, this site includes a 0.5-mile Native Plant Trail. Birds to look for include Yellow-throated Warbler, Summer Tanager and Yellow-throated Vireo.

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