

# Texas Bird BINGO

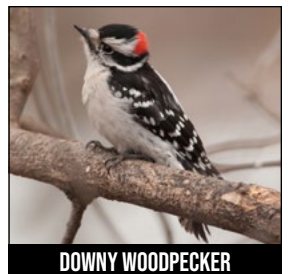
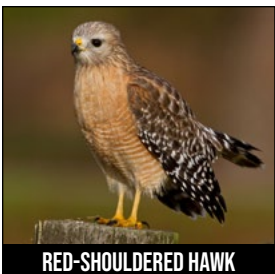
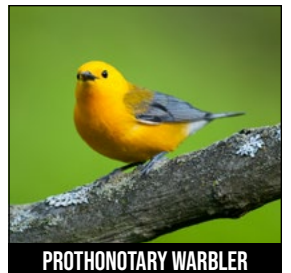
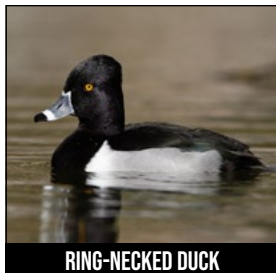
PINEWOODS REGION



**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 [pineywoods@texasbirdbingo.com](mailto:pineywoods@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)

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MINEOLA  
NATURE  
PRESERVE  
ON THE SABINE RIVER

# BIRD BINGO IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Courtesy of Audubon Texas

## AMERICAN COOT

15" (38 cm). Charcoal gray with blacker head, thick white bill, with white and chestnut frontal shield up forehead. Nods its head as it swims; walks on land, showing big feet with lobes along toes. Immature paler gray; downy young has red head.

## AMERICAN CROW

17-21" (43-53 cm). All black with strong bill, rather short square-tipped tail. Compare to other crows and ravens. Members of the blackbird family are all smaller, with different voices and shapes.

## BARRED OWL

20" (51 cm). W. 3' 8" (1.1 m). A large, round-headed owl with dark eyes, no "ear" tufts. Marked with horizontal bars on chest, vertical stripes on belly.

## BLUE JAY

12" (30 cm). Large and flashy, dull blue-gray on back, bright blue on wings and tail. Note crest, black necklace, white wing-bars and tail corners. Other blue-colored jays lack white pattern in wings and tail. Bluebirds and buntings are much smaller.

## BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER

4 1/2 - 5" (11-13 cm). Blue-gray above, whitish below, with white eye-ring. White outer tail feathers (tail looks all white from below). In spring and summer, male has thin black eyebrow.

## BLUE-WINGED TEAL

14-16" (36-41 cm). Pale blue wing patch mostly hidden when swimming, obvious in flight. Male has white crescent on gray face in spring. In fall, many are in drab eclipse plumage, look like females. Blue-wing and Cinnamon females very similar.

## BROWN PELICAN

45-54" (1.1-1.4 m). W. 7'6" (2.3 m). Very large, with distinctive shape. Adult gray-brown with pale head (back of neck turns chestnut in breeding season). Juvenile all brown at first, changing gradually to adult plumage.

## BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH

4 1/4" (11 cm). Brown cap down to eye, pale below, gray back, white nape spot. Almost identical to Pygmy Nuthatch, best identified by range.

## CAROLINA CHICKADEE

4-5" (10-13 cm). Extremely similar to Black-capped Chickadee. Averages slightly smaller. In fresh plumage (late fall and winter), Black-capped shows more obvious white edgings on feathers of forward part of wing, while Carolina is plain gray there, but both can look plain gray-winged in worn summer plumage. Black bib may have neater lower edge on Carolina, more ragged edge on Black-capped. Range is best clue.

## CHIMNEY SWIFT

4 3/4-5 1/2" (12-14 cm). Gray overall, best known by shape: stubby at both ends, with scimitar-shaped wings (sometimes called "a cigar with wings").

## DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT

30-35 (76-89 cm). Adults are blackish all over with orange bare skin on the face and throat, extending up to lores (in front of eye). (Compare the shape of this throat pouch to that of other cormorants.) In breeding plumage, western birds have white head tufts, lacking on eastern birds. Immatures are brownish, paler on foreneck and chest, often fading to whitish there. In flight, the neck is held with a slight crook or bend just behind the head (most cormorants look straight-necked in flight).

## DOWNY WOODPECKER

6" (15 cm). White back, striped face, and very short, stubby bill. Note the black bars on white outer tail feathers. Male has red nape spot. In Rockies, less white spotting on wings.

## 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.

## HOODED WARBLER

5 1/2" (14 cm). Black hood surrounding yellow face of male is diagnostic. Many females show a shadow of this hood, but others are plainer. Note their white outer tail feathers, often flashed conspicuously.

## 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.

## KILLDEER

9-11" (23-28 cm). Two black chest bands; white collar. Rather long tail is mostly orange. Downy young may have only a single black band; compare to small plovers.

## 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.

## PILEATED WOODPECKER

17" (43 cm). Very large, mostly black, with red crest, white stripe on neck. White under wings flashes in flight. Forehead and mustache red on male, black on female.

## PINE WARBLER

5 1/2" (14 cm). Adults olive above, yellow on chest, with two wing-bars; males

have blurry streaks on chest, females plainer. See Yellow-throated Vireo. Fall immatures vary, yellowish to gray. Some resemble fall Blackpoll or Bay-breasted, but have duller wing-bars, no streaks on back, cheek patch shows more contrast.

## PROTHONOTARY WARBLER

5 1/2" (14 cm). Golden yellow head and chest, white under tail, blue-gray wings and tail with white tail spots. Rather short tail and large bill for a warbler. Female duller than male. Compare to other warblers and to female orioles.

## RED-SHOULDERED HAWK

16-24" (41-61 cm). W. 3'4" (1 m). Larger than Broad-wing, with longer wings and tail. Often flies with several quick flaps and a glide, suggesting the Accipiters. Adult striking: narrow black and white bands on flight feathers of wings and tail, reddish shoulders and chest. West coast birds redder, Florida ones paler, grayer-headed. Juveniles in east are browner, with narrower bars on tail. On all, note pale crescent near wingtip in flight.

## RING-NECKED DUCK

14-18" (36-46 cm). Male has black head and back; white bar separates gray sides from black chest. Despite name, brown neck ring is very hard to see, but rings on bill are obvious. Female mostly gray-brown. Shows wide pale area near base of bill, usually less contrasty than on female scaup; similar to female Redhead but grayer, with more peaked head, more obvious bill ring.

## SUMMER TANAGER

7-8" (18-20 cm). Adult male bright rosy red all year. Young males may be patchy yellow and red. Female rich yellow, less greenish than female Scarlet; note large pale bill, plain wings.

## 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.



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