



# **WEST VIRGINIA BIRD IDENTIFICATION GUIDE**



This guide belongs to:

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# Eagles



Eagles are the largest kind of raptor. They are dark colored and have round wings.

Eagles often “soar,” beating their wings only rarely.

# Golden Eagle



🦅 Dark brown in color, with gold markings on tail and head

🦅 30 inches long

🦅 80 inch wingspan

Golden eagles eat hares, squirrels, prairie dogs, and even livestock

# Bald Eagle



🦅 Dark brown in color, with white head, neck, and tail

🦅 30 inches long

🦅 80 inch wingspan

Bald eagles mostly eat fish, but will hunt any small animal available.

# Hawks



Hawks are light in color and have round wings.

When they fly, hawks will soar for a while, only beating their wings when they need to.

# Red-Tailed Hawk



🦅 Brown on outside of wings, white on underside and stomach

🦅 23 inches long

🦅 85 inch wingspan

Red-tailed hawks eat small animals like rats, rabbits, and voles.

# Red-Shouldered Hawk



🦅 Golden in color, with brown markings

🦅 20 inches long

🦅 40 inch wingspan

Red-tailed hawks eat small animals like rats, rabbits, and voles.

# Falcons



Falcons are the smallest kind of raptor. They can be any color and have pointed wings.

Falcons flap their wings steadily as they fly.



# American Kestrel



🦅 Gray, brown, and tan with black markings and a small beak

🦅 11 inches long

🦅 22 inch wingspan

American kestrels eat insects, rodents, lizards, and small birds.

# Peregrine Falcon



🦅 Dark brown back with a white belly and brown markings

🦅 17 inches long

🦅 42 inch wingspan

Peregrine falcons eat other birds, as well as bats.

# Owls



Owls are raptors that hunt at night. They have large eyes and fly low to the ground.

# Barred Owl



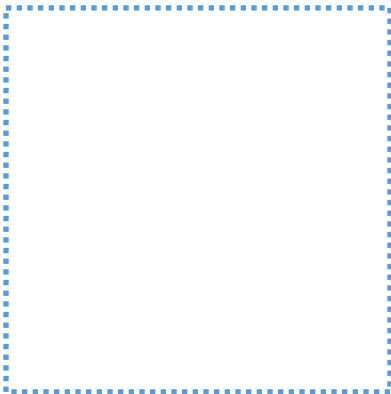
🦉 Light brown in color with white markings and a white face

🦉 18 inches long

🦉 41 inch wingspan

Barred owls eat squirrels, chipmunks, mice, rabbits, and small birds

# Great Horned Owl



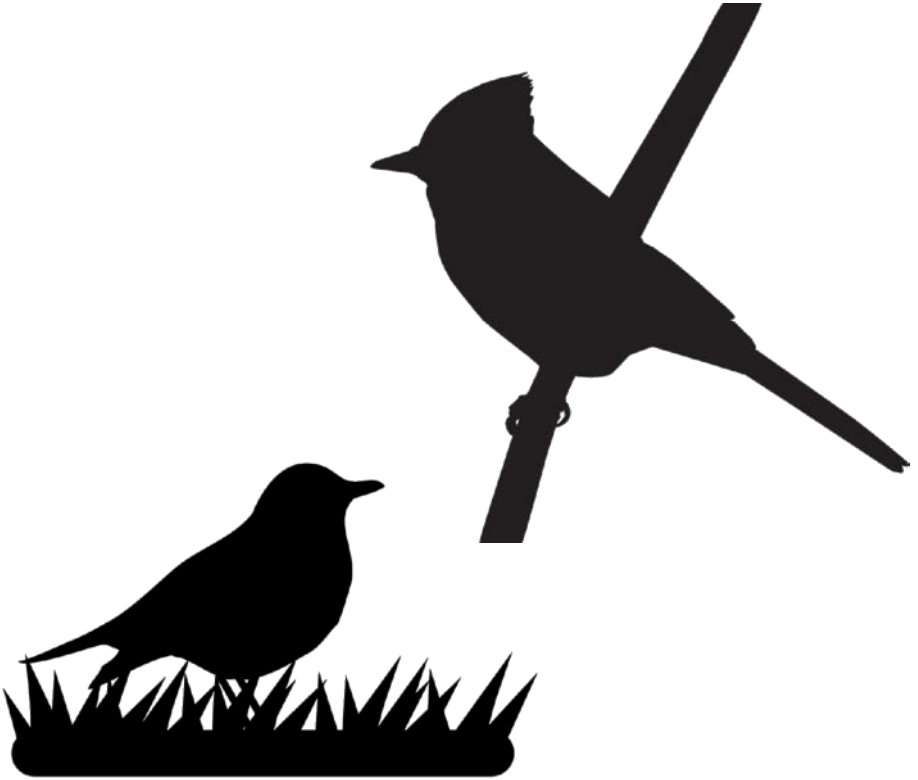
Brown and white with two feathery "horns" on the top of head

🦉 22 inches long

🦉 45 inch wingspan

Peregrine falcons eat other birds, as well as bats.

# Non-Raptors



There are many birds that are omnivores or herbivores.

They are often smaller than raptors and hop instead of step.

# Tufted Titmouse



🐦 Gray head and wings, light belly, and rusty sides

🐦 6 inches long

🐦 9 inch wingspan

Tufted Titmice eat insects, seeds, nuts, and berries.

# Eastern Towhee



🐦 Black head and wings, red and white belly

🐦 7.5 inches long

🐦 9 inch wingspan

Towhees eat seeds, fruits, insects, spiders, snails, and soft leaves, and flower buds.

All images are from the Cornell  
Lab bird guide at  
[www.allaboutbirds.org/guide](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide)

