

NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION'S

# Backyard BIRDS

## CHECKLIST

See if you can spot these common backyard birds:

**1 AMERICAN CROW**

American Crows will gang up on a predator to chase it away. If you see a mob of crows harassing a larger bird, you might get a glimpse of a hawk or an owl.

**2 AMERICAN GOLDFINCH**

Thistle is an important source of food and nesting material for the American Goldfinch. It can cling to narrow stems and delicate seed heads, sometimes upside down.

**3 AMERICAN ROBIN**

Cocking its head from side to side, the American Robin seems to be listening for worms. Actually, it spots them by sight and pulls them from the ground.

**4 BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE**

The Black-capped Chickadee may become quite tame and can learn to eat from your hand. It's named for its call, which sounds like "schick-a-dee."

**5 BLUE JAY**

The Blue Jay can be noisy and aggressive at feeders. It also has a habit of robbing other birds' nests and eating the eggs and young birds.

**6 COMMON GRACKLE**

Though the Common Grackle looks black from a distance, its feathers shimmer in glossy blue, purple, bronze, and green.

**7 DOWNY WOODPECKER**

The Downy Woodpecker is the smallest woodpecker in North America, similar in size to a Chickadee with which it often flocks.

**8 EUROPEAN STARLING**

The most common songbird in North America, the European Starling travels in large groups, often with blackbirds and grackles.

**9 HOUSE SPARROW**

The House Sparrow is a noisy and aggressive bird will steal nest sites from native hole-nesting birds.

**10 MOURNING DOVE**

The Mourning Dove's wings and tail make a whistling sound during flight, especially when the bird takes off.

**11 NORTHERN CARDINAL**

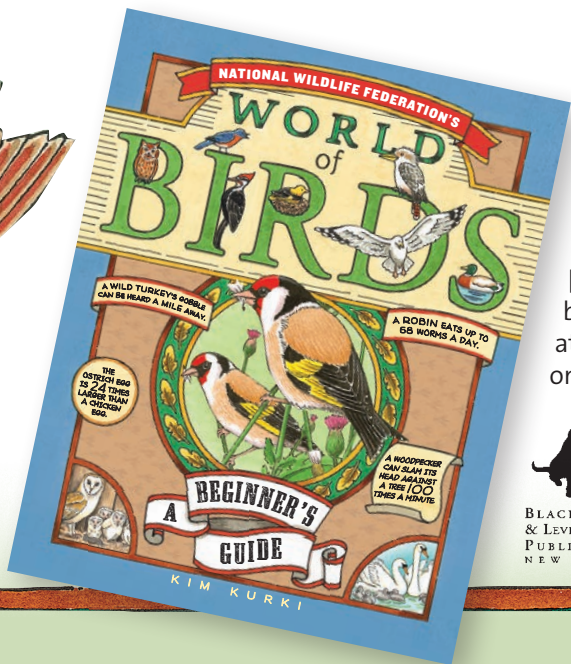
A male Northern Cardinal will fiercely defend his feeding territory. You may see him fighting his reflection in a car mirror or window, trying to scare off the "other" bird.

**12 RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD**

The male Red-winged Blackbird can hide his red feathers when he searches for food. It eats mostly insects, as many as a trillion a year.

**13 TUFTED TITMOUSE**

The Tufted Titmouse lines its nest with fur, sometimes plucked from living animals.



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