

# SF Zoo & Gardens Songbird I.D. Guide



## **American Crow**

*Corvus brachyrhynchos*

Large vocal bird with shiny black feathers, and black bill, legs and feet. About 15-21 inches in length.



## **American Robin**

*Turdus migratorius*

Gray-brown wings and tail, reddish-orange breast bordered with gray and dark heads. Their short beaks are yellow with a gray tip and overall 10 inches long.



## **Black Phoebe**

*Sayornis nigricans*

This flycatcher has a mostly gray body, white belly and a slightly darker black head that is flat. Their bills are short and thin.



## **Bushtit**

*Psaltriparus minimus*

One of the smallest song birds, it is gray-brown overall, with a large head, short neck, long tail and a short, stubby bill. The male has dark eyes and the female has yellow eyes.



## **California Towhee**

*Melospiza crissalis*

A larger, bulkier version of a sparrow, with short, rounded wings, long tail and thick seed-cracking beak. Mostly brown with a rusty patch under its tail and around their bill.



## **Chestnut-backed Chickadee**

*Poecile rufescens*

Black and white on its oversized round head, with a short neck and chestnut-colored back. Its flanks can be rich brown or dull gray. They are under 5 inches in size.



**Golden Crowned Sparrow**

*Zonotrichia atricapilla*

In the summer, adults' heads have a black crown and bright-yellow forehead and in the winter, their heads are duller, with brown replacing black and less obvious yellow. Bodies are brown and gray.



**Hermit Thrush**

*Catharus guttatus*

At 5 to 7 inches in length, these birds are brown on the head and back, with a reddish tail, and small smudged spots on the throat and breast.



**Hooded Oriole**

*Icterus cucullatus*

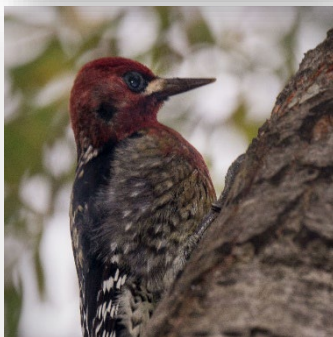
Colorful with a bright orange-yellow head and neck, and black back, face, throat and upper breast. Its bill is curved slightly downward.



**House Finch**

*Haemorhous mexicanus*

Small-bodied, with large beaks, flat heads and short wings, though the tail is long. Males have a red face and breast, with a streaky brown back, belly and tail. Females are gray/brown with blurry streaks.



**Red-Breasted Sapsucker**

*Sphyrapicus ruber*

A medium-sized woodpecker with a red head and breast with a white spot between the eye and bill. Its back is mottled black and white, with black wings.



**Ruby-Crowned Kinglet**

*Regulus calendula*

This small, olive-green bird has prominent white-eye rings and two white wingbars. Males have a red crown patch, that is not always visible.



**Scarlet Tanager**

*Piranga olivacea*

The male has a solid red body and jet black wings and tail, while the female is dull olive above with dark wings and pale yellow underneath. In the Spring, males have a more muted olive-yellow plumage.



**Song Sparrow**

*Melospiza melodia*

Patterned in browns with thick streaks on its chest and flanks. The rounded head has a mix of red-brown and gray shades. They are 5.5 to 6.5 inches long with chunky bodies and long, rounded tails.



**Townsend's Warbler**

*Setophaga townsendi*

Distinctive with greenish backs and gray wings, with two white wingbars on each wing. Males have alternating black and yellow stripes on their heads with a black cheek and throat. Females have a yellow throat and gray, not black, cheeks.



**Western Bluebird**

*Sialia mexicana*

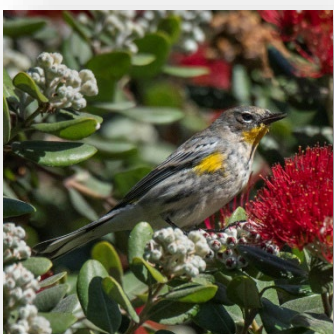
Males are shiny blue with rust-orange from the breast to the upper back. Females are gray with a pale orange wash on the breast and tints of blue on its wings and tail. Both have white lower bellies.



**White Crowned Sparrow**

*Zonotrichia leucophrys*

This 6-inch long sparrow has a small bill and long tail, with a black-and-white striped head that is peaked or smooth and flat. Its upper body is streaked with brown, and spotted with reddish brown.



**Yellow-Rumped Warbler**

*Setophaga coronata*

Both males and females are gray with white in the wings and yellow on the face, sides and rump, with blue-gray upperparts. Males are brighter than females. They have rounded heads and are evenly proportioned.