

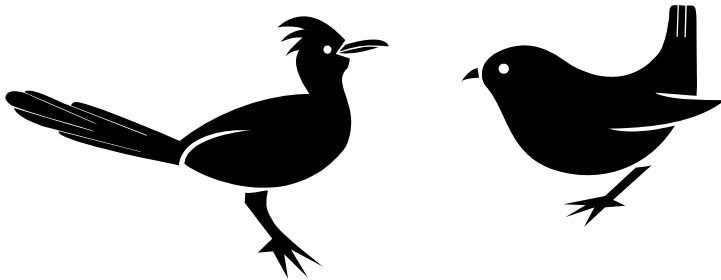
# Birding Basics (Land Birds)



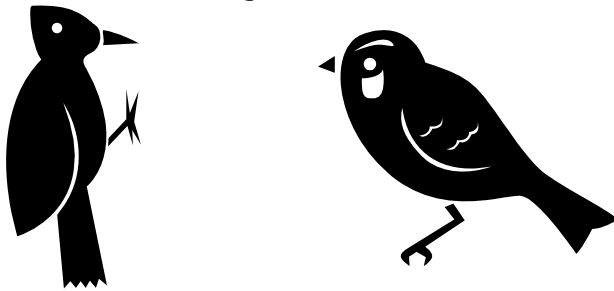
## Bird Bodies

Birds come in many different shapes and sizes. For example, some birds have very long tails, while others have short, stubby tails. Learning these differences will help you identify the birds you see. It may even help you learn something about a particular bird's way of life. Look around at different birds and answer the following questions for each bird you see.

Does this bird have a **loooooong tail** or a **short tail**?



Does this bird have a **loooooong bill** or a **short bill**?



Does this bird have a **thin bill** or a **thick bill**?



## Location, Location, Location

Like humans, birds like certain places over others. For example, ducks don't waddle around in the middle of the desert, nor would you find woodpeckers swimming in a pond. Learning a bird's particular habitat preference will help you with proper identification. It will also help you learn something about a particular bird's way of life. As you answer the questions on the left side of the sheet, notice where the bird is active and what it's doing.

Is your bird perched or moving high in a tree?

Is your bird clinging to the side of a branch or tree trunk?

Is this bird moving about on or near the ground?



# Sketch one of the birds that you observed

Include details of the following: bill shape and size, size and shape of the head, coloration of the legs and feet, patterns on the feathers. Make notes on the color/s of the feathers. Listen to your bird's call and/or song and write the sounds you hear into your own words.