

Bird Identification Chart

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Name	Black-capped Chickadee	Size	Smaller than a sparrow
Sketch		Shape	It's a small bird with a long tail. Its bill is small and black.
		Field marks	The bird has a black cap and a black throat. The sides of the face are white.
		Behavior(s)	It was with several others of its kind. The bird held a seed between its feet and pounded the seed with its bill.
		Song(s) or call(s)	heard a "fee-bee" and a "chick-a-dee-dee-dee" call.
Color(s)	Black on head, grey back, white belly, peach flanks	Habitat/Other comments	I saw several flocks of these birds in different habitats

Hints for Bird Identification

What **color** pattern is the bird?

What **size** is the bird? Is it larger than, smaller than, or same size as

- a House sparrow?
- an American Robin?
- an American Crow?

What **shape** is the bird?

- Is it chunky or long and slender?
- Does it have a crest?
- Is its tail long or short compared with its body?
- How long are its legs compared with its body?
- How long is its beak compared with the size of its head?
- What is the bird's posture? For example, how does it sit on its perch? Does it sit upright? Does it stick its tail in the air?

What are the bird's **field marks**? For example,

- Does the bird have wing bars?

- An eyebrow?
- What about stripes?
- Are there tail bands?

How does the bird **behave**? For example,

- Does it eat at the feeder, or does it take seed back to the cover of a tree or shrub?
- Does it eat only from the ground?
- Does it bob its tail when it perches or walks?
- Is the bird usually seen by itself or does it hang out with a group?
- Are the nearby birds of the same species or different species?
- Does it chase away other feeder birds or does it share the feeder food?
- Is its flight distinctive in any way?

Can you hear **songs or calls**? What do they sound like?

What habitat was it in? What other interesting features did you observe?

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