











RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

BIRD	PHOTO	KEY MARKINGS	HABITAT
American Robin	 <p>A photograph of an American Robin perched on a thin, light-colored branch. The bird has a bright orange-red breast and belly, a dark grey head and back, and a white patch around its eye. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dark grey upperside • Dark head • White around eye • Rusty orange breast and flanks • Dark tail with white corners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everywhere • Open ground • In shrubs and trees
Dark-eyed Junco	 <p>A photograph of a Dark-eyed Junco perched on a dark branch. The bird has a dark, almost black head and back, a small pinkish bill, and a white belly. The background is filled with out-of-focus pink flowers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grayish to blackish head • Small pink bill • White edges on sides of tail (like flags) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everywhere • Open ground • Brush piles • shrubs • woodlands • will eat seeds in feeder
Spotted Towhee	 <p>A photograph of a Spotted Towhee perched on a branch. The bird has a dark blue-black head and back, a red eye, and a rusty orange belly. Its wings and tail have white spots. The background is filled with out-of-focus pink and yellow flowers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dark head, back and tail • white specks on wings • white belly • white tips on end of tail • red eye • Rusty orange sides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brushy habitat and shrubs • likes to scratch in leaf litter for seeds and insects • like to be in undercover and secretive • will eat seeds in open feeder




RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Northern Flicker</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • when flying white rump is visible • salmon colored cheek patches and underwings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wooded areas with openings like forest edges • feeds on ground eating insects like ants • likes suet feeders
<p>Black-capped Chickadee</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • solid black cap • white cheek patches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mixed and deciduous woods • shrubs • regular at seed and suet feeders • caches food
<p>Chestnut-backed Chickadee</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • brown-chestnut colour on back • white cheeks • black cap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mixed and deciduous woods • shrubs • regular at seed and suet feeders • eats berries off trees and shrubs • caches food



RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Red-breasted Nuthatch</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • broad black line through eye • black strip on head • greyish wings and back • rust sides 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coniferous forest • likes seed and suet feeders
<p>Bushtit</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • small with long tail and short stubby bill • greyish head, back and tail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always in flocks • Move quickly through woods, mixed woods, riparian woods • Will feed on suet
<p>Anna's Hummingbird</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Males have rose red crown and throat; females rose on throat • Green iridescent body and wings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tops of trees • Love hummingbird feeder (1 part sugar:4 parts water)
<p>Stellar's Jay</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black head • Blue body • Blue eyebrows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coniferous woodlands • Will come to feeders for seed and suet



RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Golden-crowned Kinglet</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very active and acrobatic • Black stripe through eye • Black crown, and can flash its yellow-orange crown (male) or yellow crown (female) • Olive green-yellow back • Gray belly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands, trees and shrubs • Mostly in the canopy • Gleans insects • Not a feeder bird • Often in small groups of 3-8
<p>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active and flick wings while foraging • Olive above, gray below • White eye-ring • Male flashes hidden red crown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands, trees, shrubs • Mostly in canopy • Gleans insects • Not a feeder bird
<p>Townsend Warbler</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olive-black yellow face • White wing bars • Streaked sides (flanks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands, coniferous forest, love spruce • Feed on insects high in canopy • Will come to suet feeders



RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

Pine Siskin		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brown and streaky• Sharp pointy bill• Small tinges of yellow on wing and tail	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In flocks in open coniferous and mixed forests, weedy patches, gardens• Feed on buds and seeds of alders, birches, and other trees, and small insects• Will come to seed feeders
House Finch		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Red on head and back (female is brown with streaks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patchy brushy wooded areas• Small flocks• Regular visitor to feeders for seed and suet




RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Downy Woodpecker</p>	 <p>© Dan Streiffert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Male red patch on back of head• Female no red patch• Bill very short	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• prefer broadleaf trees and shrubs• will visit suet feeder
<p>Red-breasted Sapsucker</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• red head and breast• white stripe on wing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mixed coniferous and deciduous forest• drills sapwells• eats insects in sap



RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Hairy Woodpecker</p>	 <p><i>Dan Streiffert</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• long bill• similar to Downy, but is a bit larger and the bill is much longer• Male has red on back of cap, female does not have red	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mature forests: pine, fir, spruce• Forages on trunks and major limbs of large trees• Will feed on suet
<p>Song Sparrow</p>	 <p><i>Dan Streiffert</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streaks on breast• Brown stripe through eye	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Likes brushy areas• Common at feeder eating seeds



RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>White-crowned Sparrow</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black and white stripes on head • Brown flanks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Likes brushy areas surrounded by open habitat • Feeds in weedy or brushy areas and will move to open lawn • Will eat seed at feeder
<p>Golden-crowned Sparrow</p>	 <p>Source: Jamie Chavez, Macaulay Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to White-crowned Sparrow, but no white stripes on head • Adult has gold crown and black through eye 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar habitat to White-crowned Sparrow
<p>Pileated Woodpecker</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red crest • Black body • Much larger than Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers • White crescent in wing can be seen when flying (also white underwing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mature hardwood and coniferous forests • Forages on dead trees or fallen logs, eating insects especially ants • May drink in water fountain




RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>American Goldfinch</p>		<p>Source: Carley Randall</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In winter, drab grayish-yellow • No black forehead as in summer • White wing-bars 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orchards, hedgerows, overgrown fields, gardens • Not as common in winter • Eats seeds and thistles • Will come to seed feeder
<p>Yellow-rumped Warbler</p> <p>Two sub-species</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Audubon's 2. Myrtle 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audubon's has yellow chin • Myrtle has white chin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coniferous forests, open woods, brush, thickets and gardens • Will visit feeder for suet


RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Barred Owl (nocturnal)</p>	 <p>W. Scott Young, Macaulay Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very dark overall• Big brown eyes• Yellow bill• Underparts barred and heavily striped	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Forest with open understory• Small urban woodlands•
<p>Great Horned Owl</p>	 <p>Dan Streiffert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• large• Yellow eyes• Prominent head tufts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roosts in trees• Forages in open woods, fields, marshes

RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

<p>Bewick's Wren</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White stripe above eye and brown stripe through eye • Down-curved bill • Speckled white and brown tail • Often bends tail straight up in air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underbrush and shrubs • Eats insects • Will visit suet feeder
<p>Cooper's Hawk</p>	 <p>Source: Evan Lipton, Macaulay Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Female much larger than male • Adult gray above with darker cap • Heavily barred rufous breast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Along forest edges, broadleafed and mixed woodlands, hedgerows, suburban yards • More likely to be perched on a fence post
<p>Sharp-shinned Hawk</p>	 <p>Source: Robert Beauchamp, Macaulay Library</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to Cooper's Hawk, but smaller 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Along forest edges, hedgerows, suburban yards

RAINIER AUDUBON WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS

Varied Thrush		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Similar to robin, but black mask and black sash across chest.• Wings have vivid orangish markings, unlike robin• Blue-gray back	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wooded areas• Forage by turning leaf litter and twigs to capture insects and invertebrates• Eat fruits and berries on trees• Eat seeds and suet that drop on the ground from feeders
---------------	---	---	---

Resources:

Books

Peterson Field Guide to Birds of Western North America by Roger Tory Peterson

Sibley Birds West by David Sibley

Field Guide to Birds of Washington by Dennis Paulson (American Birding Associatio)

Apps

Merlin

[Merlin Bird ID – Free, instant bird identification help and guide for thousands of birds \(allaboutbirds.org\)](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/)

Audubon Field Guide App (free)

[Audubon Bird Guide App | Audubon](#)