



Voices of Western Backyard Birds



The sounds of birds fill the airs in backyards, woodlands, and open space throughout the world. This compilation of recordings is an introduction to the vocalizations of 14 common species found in backyards, parks and suburban habitats throughout the western United States.



Macaulay Library
Cornell Lab of Ornithology
159 Sapsucker Woods Road
Ithaca, New York 14850
telephone: 607-254-2404
email: macaulaylibrary@cornell.edu
website: www.macaulaylibrary.org

VOICES OF WESTERN BACKYARD BIRDS TRACK LIST

1. Western Backyard Bird Medley	Black-capped Chickadee <i>Poecile atricapillus</i> 11. Song (GFB1988) 12. Call (ML 40796)	House Finch <i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i> 23. Song (ML 22938) 24. Call (ML 44967)	It can be challenging to identify bird vocalizations. The best way to learn is to track down the birds that you are hearing. Grab your binoculars and try and see the mysterious songster. This sort of experience will help you remember the species next time you hear them.
Mourning Dove <i>Zenaida macroura</i> 2. Song (ML 22930)	White-breasted Nuthatch <i>Sitta carolinensis</i> 13. Song (ML 120272) 14. Call (ML 109256) 15. Call 2 (ML 56885)	Pine Siskin <i>Carduelis pinus</i> 25. Song, calls (ML 44845)	You can also start off by learning a few common birds very well. Focusing on differences in pitch, pattern, and tone will help you learn to distinguish different species.
Downy Woodpecker <i>Picoides pubescens</i> 3. Calls (ML 107281) 4. Drum (ML 44905)	American Goldfinch <i>Carduelis tristis</i> 26. Song, call (ML 111054)	Evening Grosbeak <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> 27. Calls (ML 111139)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pitch: the frequency of the notes, for example: high-pitched or low-pitched• Pattern: the rhythm or rate of delivery of the notes, for example: five short notes speeding up at the end of the song• Tone: the quality of the notes, for example: sweet, burry, hoarse
Northern Flicker <i>Colaptes auratus</i> 5. Call 1 (ML 119469) 6. Call 2 (ML 105296) 7. Drum (ML 63117)	Red-winged Blackbird <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> 19. Song (ML 94234) 20. Calls (ML 106799)		Notice that a Black-capped Chickadee's simple whistle, <i>phoe-beee</i> , is a clear two-note song that drops in pitch on the second note. However, a House Finch's bubbly song is more complex. The song packs in many notes of different pitch, some of which have a burry tone.
Steller's Jay <i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i> 8. Call (ML 44859) 9. Calls (ML 119433)	Cassin's Finch <i>Carpodacus cassini</i> 21. Song (ML 107518) 22. Call (ML 80354)		
California Scrub-Jay <i>Aphelocoma californica</i> 10. Calls (ML 120228)			

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Macaulay Library: The Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is the world's largest natural sound and video archive of animal behavior. Its mission is to collect and preserve recordings of each species' behavior and natural history and to make them available for research, education, conservation, zoos and aquaria, wildlife managers, publishers, the arts, and both public and commercial media. Since 1930, recordists of all backgrounds have contributed their recordings, which now number several hundred thousand in total. A large percentage of the recordings can be searched and played online. To hear more recordings of bird sounds or see videos, visit www.macaulaylibrary.org.

eBird: Visit eBird at www.ebird.org—an online database of bird observations providing scientists, researchers, and amateur naturalists with real-time data about bird distribution and abundance across the world. From the eBird home page, click on the 'View and Explore' data tab. Then click on 'Bar Charts' and select the state or county where you live or want to go birding. Finally, click on the link for the species you are interested in finding.

All About Birds: Check out this free online bird guide to help you identify birds of your backyard and beyond. Learn about the life history of nearly 600 North American birds, listen to their sounds, and watch videos of their behavior. www.allaboutbirds.org.

Membership: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology is supported by 35,000 members. Your support furthers the Lab's mission to protect the earth's wildlife through research, education, and citizen science focused on birds. Visit www.birds.cornell.edu/membership to find out how you can join and help conserve the birds that touch our lives and enrich our planet.

Sound Recording Workshop: Each year the Macaulay Library teaches state-of-the-art techniques for recording the sounds of wildlife with skilled staff from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Participants learn through daily field recording sessions, coupled with lectures and demonstrations. If you would like to learn more about recording wildlife, visit www.macaulaylibrary.org/inside/record/workshops/index.do.

CREDITS

Recordists: Gregory F. Budney, William R. Fish, David S. Herr, Wilbur L. Hershberger, Geoffery A. Keller, Randolph S. Little, Thomas G. Sander, Gerrit Vyn

Booklet Images: Cover from left to right: Steller's Jay by John McKean, Western Scrub-Jay by Donald Metzner, Evening Grosbeak by Ted Schroeder, White-breasted Nuthatch by Lew Scharpf, Cassin's Finch by John McKean, White-crowned Sparrow by Tiny Gehrke

Digital Images: Jerry Acton, Shirley Gallant, Tiny Gehrke, Linda Koning, John McKean, Donald Metzner, Don Rash, Cameron Rognan, Lew Scharpf, Ted Schroeder, Irene Verweij

Digital Production:

Director, Macaulay Library: Michael S. Webster
Studio Engineer: Matthew A. Young

Introduction Text: Jessie Barry
Digital Image Processing: Jason van Staveren
Booklet Design and Layout: Tammy L. Bishop
Production Facilities: Macaulay Library, Cornell Lab of Ornithology



© 2011 Cornell Lab of Ornithology
www.birds.cornell.edu