



Woodpigeon

Fact file

Size: 41cm

Weight: 450g

Habitats: Farmland, woods, gardens and towns.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks, Peregrines, Foxes and cats.

Eats: Mainly plants, such as cabbage and ivy, plus bird seed. It also eats insects and so it is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground or on a bird table.

Strange but true

When it is showing off to other Woodpigeons, it claps its wings together above its back before gliding down steeply.

Woodpigeon by Chris Gomersall (rsps-images.com).
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Male

Female

Blackbird

Fact file

Size: 24cm

Weight: 100g

Habitats: Woods, gardens, parks and farmland.

On the menu

Eaten by: Kestrels, Peregrines, Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Insects, worms, berries, fruit, and scraps from the kitchen, such as cheese. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground or on a bird table.

Strange but true

It may be called a Blackbird, but the females and young birds are brown.

Blackbird by Ben Andrew (rsps-images.com).
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Carrion Crow

Fact file

Size: 45cm

Weight: 510g

Habitats: Farmland, woods, hills, towns and cities.

On the menu

Eaten by: Goshawks and Foxes.

Eats: Most things, including dead animals, birds, worms, small mammals, insects, grain and fruit. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground, where it walks or hops.

Strange but true

Crows are intelligent and can solve problems. In Japan, some Crows place walnuts in front of cars at traffic lights. They eat the nuts after the cars have cracked the shells.

Carrion Crow by David Norton (rsps-images.com).
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Male

Female

House Sparrow

Fact file

Size: 15cm

Weight: 34g

Habitats: Gardens, parks, buildings, farms and towns.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Adults eat seeds, grain, insects and household scraps (omnivores). Chicks are fed insects and caterpillars (carnivores).

Where it feeds: Mainly on the ground or on bird feeders.

Strange but true

House Sparrows have been introduced to every continent in the world, except Antarctica.

House Sparrow by Ray Kennedy (rsps-images.com).
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Starling

Fact file

Size: 21cm

Weight: 78g

Habitats: Woods, grassland, farms and towns.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks, Goshawks, Kestrels and Peregrines.

Eats: Insects, spiders, worms, caterpillars, soft fruit, nuts and fat balls. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground or on bird tables and feeders.

Strange but true

Starlings can make lots of sounds, including whistles, quacking like a duck and making the noise of a barking dog or car alarm.

Starling by Nick Upton (rspb-images.com).

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Black-headed Gull

Fact file

Size: 34cm

Weight: 290g

Habitats: Lakes, estuaries, farms, grassland and rubbish tips.

On the menu

Eaten by: Peregrines, Marsh Harriers and Foxes.

Eats: Insects, worms, slugs, sea creatures, small fish and bread. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground, often on grass.

Strange but true

You might see it hopping quickly from one foot to the other. This makes worms think it is raining, so they come to the surface and the gull can then eat them.

Black-headed Gull by Paul Sawyer (rspb-images.com).

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Robin

Fact file

Size: 14cm

Weight: 18g

Habitats: Woods, gardens, parks and farms.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Insects, spiders, worms, fruits, and seeds, including bird seed and sunflower hearts. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground and on bird tables and feeders.

Strange but true

Robins nest in some unusual places. They have been known to nest in a teapot, an old boot, postboxes, flower pots and under the bonnet of a car.

Robin by David Norton (rspb-images.com).

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Blue Tit

Fact file

Size: 11.5cm

Weight: 11g

Habitats: Woods, parks, gardens, towns and cities.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Insects, spiders, caterpillars, berries, nuts, sunflower seeds and kitchen scraps. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: In trees, on bird tables and bird feeders.

Strange but true

Blue Tit chicks can eat 100 caterpillars a day. To feed 10 chicks, adults need to find 1,000 caterpillars a day.

Blue Tit by Louise Greenhorn (rspb-images.com).

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Magpie

Fact file

Size: 45cm

Weight: 220g

Habitats: Woods, parks, gardens, farms, moors and towns.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks, Peregrines and Foxes.

Eats: Most things, including insects, small mammals, young birds, fruit, berries and bird seed. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground or a bird table.

Strange but true

Magpies will hide food when there is lots. They are very good at remembering where they have put it.

Magpie by Graham Eaton (rsbp-images.com).
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Feral Pigeon

Fact file

Size: 33cm

Weight: 300g

Habitats: Towns and cities.

On the menu

Eaten by: Peregrines, Foxes and cats.

Eats: Grain, bread, bird seed and lots of other foods it finds in towns. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground, maybe in the playground.

Strange but true

Feral Pigeons can be pure white, almost black, grey, brown and lots of other colours.

Feral Pigeon by Malcolm Hunt (rsbp-images.com).
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Great Tit

Fact file

Size: 14cm

Weight: 18g

Habitats: Woods, parks, gardens and farms.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Insects, caterpillars, fruits, seeds, nuts and kitchen scraps such as bread. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground, in trees and on feeders.

Strange but true

Did you know a Great Tit's song sounds like: 'Teacher, teacher, teacher'? It's a bit like a squeaky bicycle pump too.

Great Tit by Grahame Madge (rsbp-images.com).
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Chaffinch

Fact file

Size: 14.5cm

Weight: 24g

Habitats: Woods, parks, gardens and farms.

On the menu

Eaten by: Sparrowhawks and cats.

Eats: Insects, caterpillars and seeds, including bird seed. It is an omnivore.

Where it feeds: On the ground.

Strange but true

Lots of the Chaffinches we see in the winter have flown across the sea from places such as Norway and Sweden.

Chaffinch by Andrew Mason and Steve Round (rsbp-images.com).
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