

Woodpeckers

Commonly associated with their habit of drumming & pecking noisily on a tree, woodpeckers have been gaining popularity with bird enthusiasts as an interesting & helpful bird to add to your backyard.

Characteristics:

Males & females look the same with white bellies, a white central back stripe & distinctly patterned black & white on their faces & wings. Adult males have a red patch at the back of the head.

Primary Diet:

Insects, spiders, ants, fruits & nuts. At bird feeders sunflower seeds, peanuts, suet & cracked corn are favorites.

Fun Facts:

- Woodpeckers have short legs & sharp nails making it easy to cling to bark of trees.
- A pair of stiff, centrally located tail feathers supports & allows woodpeckers to remain upright on trees.
- A very thick skull & squishy bones protect the woodpeckers brain from shock caused by persistent pecking.
- A straight, chisel-like bill is used to excavate holes in trees, and very long tongues allow the birds to capture their prey.

