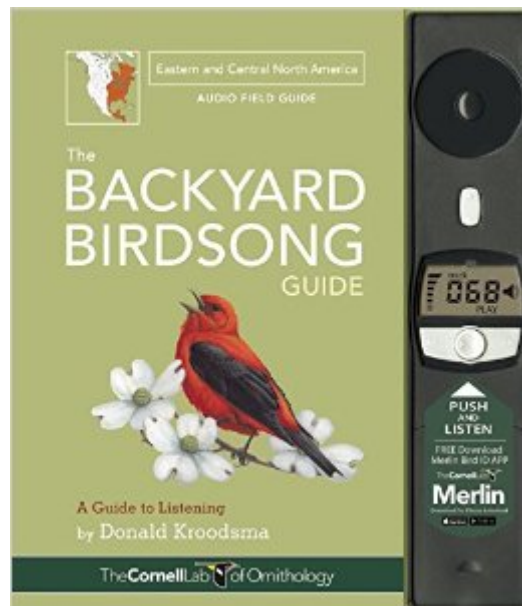


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# The Backyard Birdsong Guide Eastern And Central North America: A Guide To Listening



## Synopsis

Back by popular demand with more than 300,000 copies sold, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is proud to re-release the widely acclaimed and bestselling bird audio field guide series, Backyard Birdsongs, from award-winning Ornithologist and Author, Donald Kroodsma. Backyard Birdsongs is an interactive handbook of birds and their songs for beginning bird-watchers. With a touch-button electronic module housing common vocalizations of 75 species from across Eastern and Central North America, this volume offers a truly sensory way to identify and get to know local birds. Crisply detailed and scientifically accurate illustrations accompany each entry, and up-to-date range maps provide clear geographical reference points. Complete with an introduction to birdsongs that will inspire readers to look out their kitchen windows and venture out in the field, this unique book provides an exciting entryway into the subtle art of birding. This second edition includes a much-requested new Sound Track Index (to help make watching and listening to birds easier), and a free download of the Cornell Lab's own MERLIN<sup>®</sup> Bird ID App (on iTunes and Android stores). And as with all Cornell Lab Publishing Group books, 35% of the net proceeds from the sale of Backyard Birdsongs supports projects at the Cornell Lab, such as children's educational and community programs.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (46 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Back in 2008, I was excited to see this book, but then disappointed to see it go out of print. Now it's back, and from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology itself!!! I've started buying them again to

give to grandkids, friends, and others of all ages who love birds. Hereâ€™s my review of 8 years ago, and it still applies, in spades. Wow!! What a terrific book . . . the text, the sounds, the selection of species, the layout . . . everything works perfectly together. I opened my pre-release copy, intending to spend just a few minutes and return to it later. Two hours went by, and I was still reading and listening; I couldn't stop turning the pages. Of course, I went right to my favorite birds, reading the text and pushing the buttons to listen, as I expect that most people will do. But then I settled in and went to other species, and then I read the introductory pages. The information there will bring you to a whole new level of enjoying these remarkable creatures. I have struggled for years to identify birds through their song, aided by mostly meaningless mnemonics as these are presented in most guides. For the first time, Kroodsma's full description of each species' song gives readers enough detail and context to help them understand what they are listening to. These birds come to life in the text and then the icing is the lovely songs themselves. Push the loon button and you are immediately transported to remote northern lakes. Push the phoebe button and hear how he sings his two different songs. Hear how animated a pewee is at dawn compared to later in the day. Try the wrens, thrushes, warblers, sparrows. They're all there and more, in the text and at the push of a button! This is a truly special book. I'd give it ten stars if I could. Now I have the perfect gift to give to my friends to show them why I've always been so thrilled to hear a singing bird.

We recently saw this book at a friend's house. Seemed like a fun and interesting way to identify birds, particularly their songs, so we ordered two--one for us and one for a friend. Both arrived quickly (Prime) and have already used ours several times as the spring birds begin to come back to New Hampshire. It doesn't cover all the birds we encounter--Bald Eagle, for example--but it's a good resource for the common birds we see and hear. One complaint, though. Both books were put in the same box along with another item we had ordered. But there was no padding or packaging whatsoever in the box. The items were quite free to bounce around inside as they made their way to our house. One of the books was fine, but the other was missing the battery cover (nowhere in the box) and the spine was bent. Easy return to , of course, but I can't imagine how or why someone packing the box would not put protective padding inside.

I purchased this book as a gift for my husband. I tried to purchase this book last year but it was discontinued and the prices were very steep. This book was brought back by popular demand so I was finally able to purchase it and my husband loves it. He has had some of the birds in the backyard respond back to the bird calls from the book.

Our entire family loves this awesome book! We reference it numerous times a week as we enjoy the wonder of God's creation. Great tool for teaching children about birds since they are so fascinated by discovering the sounds of the birds. Highly recommend!

Got this book as a fathers day present for my dad. He absolutely loves it! The recordings sound very clear. My dad actually had an idea to go outside and play the recordings to see if birds would respond to it. The recordings are clear enough that other birds think it is real!

I ordered a copy of this book for my children's school nature curriculum. Kids from age 4-11 have loved it! They are delighted to be able to hear all the sounds and follow along with the pictures in the book. Even the very little ones have learned how to navigate the search buttons to match track numbers with the numbers on the illustrate pages. The text is geared toward older readers or adults, but the younger children have really loved working with this book also.

I purchased two of these books, giving one away as a gift. The book I kept for myself works well, but the one given as a gift for Mother's Day worked for only a short time and now will not play any sounds. The digital display remains blank, even after the batteries were changed as directed. Because one book worked so well and is very enjoyable, I will be ordering another to replace the nonfunctioning one. Apparently I will have to pay for this on my own as I am being told the return period has passed.

Love the book but wish you could type in the number for the recording as it gets rather tedious having to scroll through one at a time to get to the desired recording. Great intro to birdsongs that I have recommended to several friends.

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