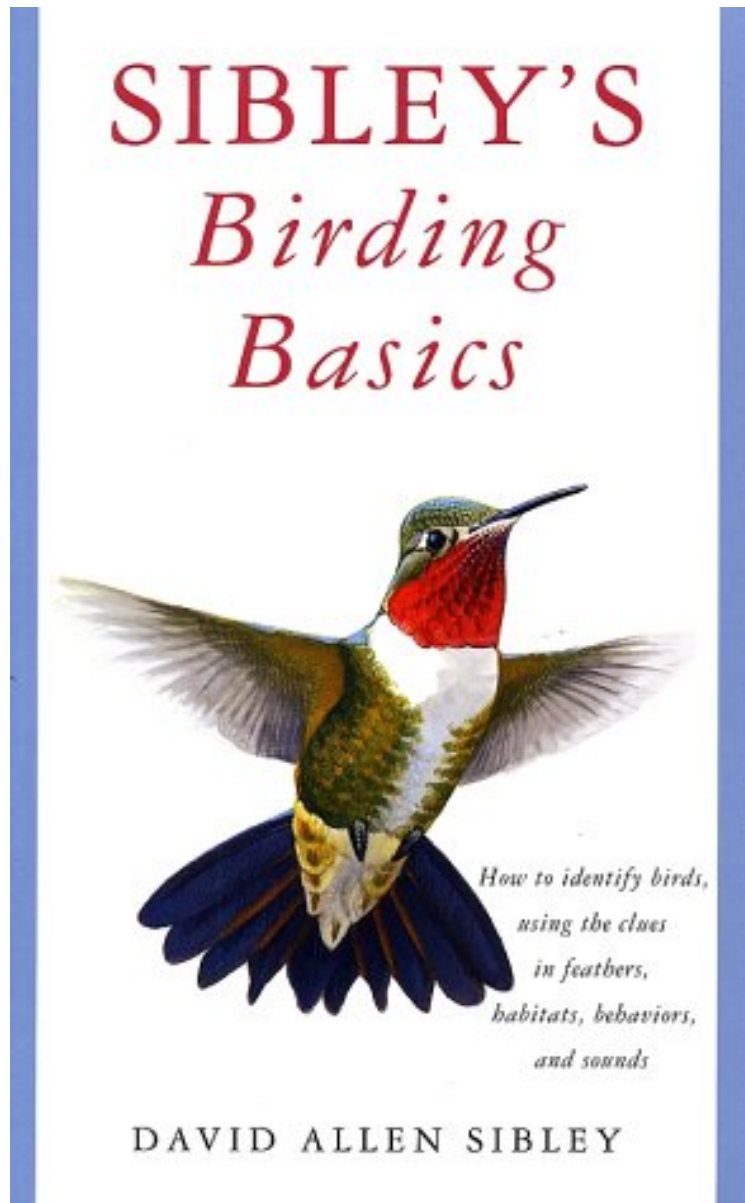


Sibley's Birding Basics

David Allen Sibley

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#5958534 in Books Random House 2002-10-01 2002-10-01Format: Bargain PricePDF # 1 8.27 x .44 x 5.13l, .74 #File Name: B001E96HBM168 pages | File size: 44.Mb

David Allen Sibley : Sibley's Birding Basics before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sibley's Birding Basics:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good for experienced birders.By ACThis would be an excellent guide for a somewhat experienced birder. It explains what features to look and listen for, when deciding what bird you

are looking at. I am new to birding, and most of this book is above my level of skill. I will return to it when I have spent more time in the field with birders who can help get me started. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By a2thdoc Arrived as described and on time. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good introduction about getting started with Birdwatching By Janet R. Lloyd Great help organizing the basics for a birdwatching course. Students loved it. So helpful for everyone.

I wrote and illustrated this book to help every inquisitive birder, from novice to expert. Whether you can identify six birds or six hundred, you'll be a better birder if you have a grounding in the real nuts and bolts of what birds look like, and your skills will be even sharper if you know exactly what to look for and how to record what you see. David Allen Sibley *The Sibley Guide to Birds* and *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* are both universally acclaimed as the new standard source of species information. And now David Sibley, America's premier birder and best-known bird artist, takes a new direction; in *Sibley's Birding Basics* he is concerned not so much with species as with the general characteristics that influence the appearance of all birds and thus give us the clues to their identity. To create this guide, David Sibley thought through all the skills that enable him to identify a bird in the few instants it is visible to him. Now he shares that information, integrating an explanation of the identification process with many painted and drawn images of details (such as a feather) or concepts. *Birding Basics* begins by reviewing how one can get started as a birder: the equipment necessary, where and when to go birding, and perhaps most important, the essential things to look for when birds appear in the field. Using many illustrations, David Sibley reviews all the basic concepts of bird identification and then describes the variations (of shape, size, and color) that can change the appearance of a bird over time or in different settings. And he issues a warning about illusions and other pitfalls and advice on avoiding them. The second part of the book, also plentifully illustrated, deals with another set of clues, the major aspects of avian life that differ from species to species: feathers (color, arrangement, shape, molt), behavior and habitat, and sounds. This scientifically precise, beautifully illustrated volume distills the essence of David Sibley's own experience and skills, providing a solid introduction to naming the birds. With Sibley as your guide, when you learn how to interpret what the feathers, the anatomical structure, the sounds of a bird tell you when you know the clues that show you why there's no such thing as just a duckbirding will be more fun, and more meaningful. An essential addition to the Sibley shelf!

From Publishers Weekly While Sibley's (*The Sibley Guide to Birds*) book is a field guide primer, it provides useful information for not only novice bird watchers, but also for veterans hoping to expand their life lists. This compact handy volume is an ideal complement to the author's two massive works on bird identification and behavior. Beginning with his trained artist's eye, Sibley advises readers on how to develop techniques in sighting birds by honing their ability to see details. Sibley also provides information on where, when and how to find and observe birds in the wild, ranging from the obvious, being quiet and moving slowly, to the more esoteric, anticipating birds' needs and keeping field notes. One of the most difficult tasks for bird watchers is differentiating between subspecies with very similar physical appearances. With this in mind, the writer provides suggestions for sketching birds in the field with special emphasis on comparative details, which will enable the birder to make a positive identification later. There's a bounty of information about feathers shapes, colors, sizes and functions, all discussed in accessible language. The book's illustrated entries range from common birds to the most rare. With its analysis of weather, gear, geography and seasons, Sibley's book will enable birders of all skill and experience levels to improve their abilities and enhance the satisfaction of their birding treks. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Extraordinary artist and naturalist Sibley follows his highly acclaimed *The Sibley Guide to Birds* and *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* with this excellent and attractive guide to birding basics. In 16 thoughtful, concise essays accompanied by 200 paintings, mostly new for this book, he explores general aspects of birding such as getting started, misidentification, voice, understanding feathers, age variation, ethics and conservation, taxonomy, and finding birds. If being a field naturalist is a craft, then this book is essential in helping to develop and understand the required skills. This little gem is worth the modest price for the paintings, or the text, alone. Highly recommended- Henry T. Armistead, Free Lib. of Philadelphia Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. From the Inside Flap "I wrote and illustrated this book to help every inquisitive birder, from novice to expert. Whether you can identify six birds or six hundred, you'll be a better birder if you have a grounding in the real nuts and bolts of what birds look like, and your skills will be even sharper if you know exactly what to look for and how to record what you see." --David Allen Sibley "*The Sibley Guide to Birds* and "*The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior* are both universally acclaimed as the new standard source of species information. And now David Sibley, America's premier birder and best-known bird artist, takes a new direction; in "*Sibley's Birding Basics* he is concerned not so much with species as with the general characteristics that influence the appearance of all birds and thus give us the clues to their identity. To create this guide, David Sibley thought through all the skills that enable him to identify a bird in the few instants it is visible to him. Now he shares that information, integrating an explanation of the identification process with many painted and drawn images of details (such as a feather) or concepts. "*Birding Basics* begins by reviewing how one can get started as a birder: the equipment necessary, where and when to go birding, and perhaps most important, the

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