



Bird Adaptation Chart

Beaks

<i>Adaptation</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Advantage</i>
Pouch-like	Pelican	Can hold the fish it eats
Long, thin	Avocet	Can probe shallow water and mud for the insects it eats
Pointed	Woodpecker	Can break and probe bark of trees for the insects it eats
Curved	Hawk	Can tear solid tissue for the meat it eats
Short, stout	Finch	Can crack the seeds and nuts it eats
Slender, long	Hummingbird	Can probe the flowers for nectar it eats

Talons

<i>Adaptation</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Advantage</i>
Webbed	Duck	Aids in swimming
Long toes	Crane, Heron	Aids in walking on mud
Clawed	Hawk, Eagle	Can grasp food when hunting prey
Grasping	Cardinal	Aids in sitting on branches, roosting, protection

Legs

<i>Adaptation</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Advantage</i>
Flexor tendons	Chicken	Aids in perching, grasping
Long, powerful	Ostrich	Aids running
Long, slender	Heron, Crane	Aids wading
Powerful muscles	Eagle, Hawk	Aids lifting, carrying prey

Wings

<i>Adaptation</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Advantage</i>
Fringed	Owl	Allows silent flight
Large	Eagle	Aids flying with prey, soaring while hunting
Long, tapered	Falcon	Aids in fast flying for prey

Coloration

<i>Adaptation</i>	<i>Bird</i>	<i>Advantage</i>
Bright plumage	Male birds	Attraction in courtship, mating rituals
Dull plumage	Female birds	Aids in camouflage while nesting
Change of plumage with seasons	Ptarmigan	Provides camouflage protection (brown in summer, white in winter)