

What Do Baby Hummingbirds Look Like?

The harbinger of good news, the hummingbird is thought to be a symbol of lightness, joy and the end of hardships – the hummingbird with its vibrant feathers and a long-lasting appetite for food and for life is a marvel on its own. We will be exploring some of the most asked questions regarding this tiny creature as well as providing tips to help the endangered species.

What do baby hummingbirds look like?

Although there are numerous kinds of hummingbirds, they all are relatively small in size in comparison to other birds and so are their babies. The hummingbirds' eggs could be as tiny as a pea, they range between 0.5 to 0.6 Inches, and they are colored white. To know more about the hummingbirds' eggs you can check [here](#).

The chicks of the hummingbird are born featherless and as heavy as a penny. They can not depend on themselves in the first week but they develop rather quickly and start training their wings when they are two weeks old. They can take around 60 days to become fully independent.

What does a hummingbird nest look like?

The hummingbirds' nests are built by females and have different sizes. Some are rather tiny more like the size of a walnut shell that can be picked by small tweezers but of course, if you see one don't touch it. Other nests can be the size of a golf ball.

They are usually hidden in the ceiling of a cave or in the bushes of high trees. There were some unusual sights of nests found on top wind chimes or on washing lines.

They are made of a lot of materials and tend to stretch since they make them with spider webbing, moss, and lichen. Some nests have great coloring and a very delicate structure. If you are interested to know more here are all that you will need to know regarding nests

[Hummingbird Nests 101: A Beginner's Guide](#).

Try your best if you spot any nest to avoid it, as the female hummingbird is usually stressed and will be terrorized by your approach.

What do hummingbirds eat?

Hummingbirds have an impressive diet, they consume half their size on daily basis due to their high metabolism. If they were sleeping normally like us they would probably starve to death overnight because of their metabolism rate. They need a high intake of sugar and nectar. There are lots of flowers that are considered hummingbird favorites such as bee balm, Cardinal, trumpet creeper, and coral honeysuckle. The [nectar plants](#) shaped like tubes are best loved by the humming birds as well. They also feed on small insects and insects' eggs.

You can help Hummingbird feed by providing feeders in your backyard or hanging one on your window or door. You can check the [recipe](#) to create nutritious nectar for them. These feeders would help greatly because of the hummingbird's constant need for food.

What does an adult hummingbird look like?

There is a huge variation in shapes regarding the species and gender. In order to attract the female, The male hummingbird tends to be a spectacular colorful creature. There are many kinds of humming birds and you can check some of their pictures [here](#).

The hummingbird is usually very small the largest one, the giant hummingbird, can be held in the palm of your hand weighing around 24g and it is 23cm in length. On the other hand the smallest one, the bee hummingbird, it can weigh 2g lighter than a dime and its length can reach 6cm usually mistaken for a bee.

Most types are stubby with long narrow wings and a needle shaped bill and the glittering colourful feathers.

How fast can a hummingbird flap?

The most known fact about hummingbirds is that they flap their wings at extremely high speeds. Their name originated from the fact their wings produce a humming sound when they are flapping.

This shouldn't come as a surprising fact since we talked about their high metabolism which is caused by their steadfast movement.

From 12 beats per second reaching 200 beats per second depending on the species and what they are doing. A biology expert has discussed this phenomenon on the youtube original [How Fast Can a Hummingbird flap?](#)

He spoke about the average flap rate and other interesting facts and they were able to capture the hummingbird and show their flaps in slow motion so that we can see them.

How fast can the heart of a hummingbird beat?

Small but mighty, In comparison with the human heart that beats from 60 to 100 bpm the hummingbird's heart can beat up to 1200 bpm. This is due to their high metabolism. It is rather impressive for their tiny hearts. The humming bird has [unique anatomy](#), the hummingbird's heart is about 2.5% of their body weight and it allows them to go into torpor which is a state that decreases their body temperature to conserve energy and lower their metabolic rate. This state acts as a mini hibernation to help the humming bird survive. If they slept like us they won't be able to reserve their food or reserve their energy.

How Flexible is a hummingbird?

A hummingbird can move their wings in eight different patterns which makes them the only bird capable of flying backward and the only bird that can hover for a long duration of time. Their flipping wing enables them to stabilize in a specific position for a long while. You can also see this in the video [How Fast Can a Hummingbird flap?](#) A humming bird can move up, down, back, and forth. The hummingbird wing is a miraculous gift as it allows it to move swiftly and efficiently to avoid attacks.

How can you spot a hummingbird?

It is not an impossible task since the hummingbirds are very colorful and have exquisitely vibrant feathers they can be spotted during their migration season. From mid-July, till October you can spot one in your backyard if you spent time regularly bird watching. If your back yard has nectar plants your chances would increase greatly as you can find one knocking on your door. There are many tips that will help you on your mission but they are all rounded up in [How to Identify HummingBirds?](#) The article gives you three different factors for spotting the marvelous creature and gives helpful tips to do so.

For how long can a hummingbird live?

Although, there are cases where hummingbirds lived up to 12 years the [life span](#) average of a hummingbird ranges between 3 years to 5 years. There are a lot of elements as to why they die so soon like severe weather, diseases, losing weight during their mating season, and the most important one is predators.

Predators that could devour our little hummingbird are lizards, snakes, owls, bats, and even a mantis. A large mantis can kill a small-sized humming bird so if there is one hiding near the bird feeders it is better to displace it.

How do hummingbird mate?

The life and soul of the party, Male hummingbirds choreograph and preform a [headstopping show](#) for the female to impress her. In order to mate, The male hummingbirds pick a territory fitting for their feeding needs. The [matting process](#) start after the female arrives. They try to dazzle her with original moves and beautiful singing. If they failed the female would leave but if they succeed they win her approval. After the end of the show the female hummingbird finishes building the nest while the male search for other prospect mates leaving all the hardwork for her and he moves on to impress another with his unique tricks.

How to Help the hummingbird survive ?

There are a lot of methods to help humming birds survive. If you have a backyard you can plant a lot of their original inhabitant plants or [nectar plants](#).

You can put bird feeders with glucose water to help them during their migration season.

You can put a bowl of ripe fruits or banana peels near the feeder to attract fruit flies.

You can help buy using enviromental friendly products like [Bird-friendly coffee](#).

You need to stop using chemical pesticides or insecticides in your yard that poison the hummingbirds and kill them and try to use more organic ones.

Avoid using one use plastic products that harm the environment.

Try to keep your cat inside since some curious cat can kill small sized birds.

If you find any predators near the feeders, remove them and displace them.

If you can provide small resting places near the feeders that will help them regain their power needed for the migration journey.

You can Volunteer and donate your time to help save the hummingbird.

You can spread Awareness Regarding the importance of keeping our wild birds safe.

Lastly, you can donate to different charities that care for the wild life of this beautiful bird such as [American Bird Conservancy](#), [the Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute](#) or [Discover Wild Care](#).