

<b>Raptor</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Relative Size</b>	<b>Wing Shape</b>	<b>Tail Length</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Chest</b>	<b>Wing</b>	<b>Tail</b>	<b>Flight Char.</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Sharp-Shinned</b>	Accipt	Blue Jay	Broad	Long	Small	Heavy Streaks	Short, Wrists Forward	Notched or Straight, Narrow at body	Quick, Snappy	Along Ridges in high winds soars in full tuck
<b>Cooper</b>	Accipt	Crow	Broad	Long	Large	Fine Streaks	Long, Wrists straight except in tuck	Round, wide at body	Stiff, Slow from shoulder	Never soars in full tuck in high winds
<b>Kestrel</b>	Falcon	Robin	Pointed	Long	Moustache Stripes	Light, Tawny	Sickle Shaped, Narrow. Row of White Dots on Trailing edge	Male: single black band; Fem: Orange with multiple bands	Fluttery and wandering	
<b>Merlin</b>	Falcon	Robin	Pointed	Medium	Dark	Dark	Dark, Broad at body, hard angles	Narrow White Bands	Pigeon-like, hard pumping, direct	Small, dark, travels fast
<b>Peregrine</b>	Falcon	Slightly larger than Crow	Pointed	Long. Tapered	Single wide moustache	Light	Long, tapered, broad at base	Banded; Juv have wide, white tip	Steady, Rhythmic beat, powerful	Can Soar
<b>Broad Wing</b>	Buteo	Raven	Broad	Broad but thin when gliding	Heavy streak, face, throat white on adults	Heavy Streaks	Broad, White outline in black, tapered in soar	Mature have Wide White Sub-terminal band	Stiff and Choppy wing beat, Soars with candle tapered wings, glides wings down	Frequently migrates in large numbers
<b>Red-Shouldered</b>	Buteo	Medium	Broad, long	Long	Dark	Streaky	Translucent Crescents at tip of wings	Even banding	Wings held forward, Slight droop,	Flaps like an accipiter
<b>Red-Tailed</b>	Buteo	Large	Broad, long	Medium	Dark	Belly Band	Dark, patagial patch, Wrist commas	Red in adult; barred brown in juv.	Slow, heavy	Kites, Slight dihedral
<b>Harrier</b>	Harrier	Medium	Long, slender	Long	Dark, Owl disk	Male white; fem, Juv tawny	Male Black tips; Fem, juv streaked	Banded	Dihedral, lazy loping beat	White rump patch
<b>Osprey</b>	Osprey	Large	Long, Crooked	Long, broad	Dark eye stripe	Brown and white	Dark, white wrists	Fine banding	Soars more than flaps	Short-headed compared with tail
<b>Bald Eagle</b>	Eagle	Large	Long. Broad	Long	Adult White; Juv dark	Dark; Juv may have white	Plank like, Juv White underwing coverts	Adult White; Juv Dark	High upstroke, soars like an ironing board	Head and tail appear equal length
<b>Golden Eagle</b>	Eagle	Large	Long, Broad	Long	Tawny	Dark	Juv, White at base flight feathers	Dark; Juv white with dark band at base	Flat or slight dihedral, little up stroke	Head appears small compared to tail
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	Vulture	Large	Long, Broad	Long	Red in adult, Small	Dark	Silver trailing edge	Long	Dihedral, Rocks in flight	
<b>Black Vulture</b>	Vulture	Large	Long, Broad	Short and broader than TV	Dark	Dark	White at tips	Short	Wings held forward and flat	

**RAPTOR CHART** by *Peter Zwadyk* for *Blue Ridge Birders*