

Birds USA: Bird Anatomy

The basics behind the bird

Different Feathers For Different Functions

Birds have three types of feathers: down feathers, contour feathers and flight feathers.

Down feathers are soft, fluffy and short feathers that keep the bird warm. They are usually present when the birds are chicks, or when a bird is molting.

Contour feathers cover most of the bird's body. They are designed to repel water and wind.

Flight feathers are used for flight, and are located on the wings and tail. They are stiffer and longer than the other feathers.

****For the full article, pick up the 2008 issue of Birds USA or click here to buy the issue.****