

# 131a Identification of Kestrels

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## IDENTIFICATION OF ADULTS AND JUVENILES OF LESSER KESTREL AND COMMON KESTREL

### ALL AGES AND SEXES

All ages and sexes can be separated by colour of claws and wing formula.



Lesser Kestrel. Colour of claws: colour pale.



Common Kestrel. Colour of claws: colour black.



Lesser Kestrel. Wing formula: outermost primary longer than 7th.



Common Kestrel. Wing formula: outermost primary with the same length than 7th.

## ADULT MALE

Adult male can be separated by pattern of upperparts.



Lesser Kestrel. Adult. Male. Pattern of upperparts: unspotted feathers.



Common Kestrel. Adult. Male. Pattern of upperparts: spotted feathers.

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## ADULT FEMALE AND JUVENILE

Adult female and juvenile can be separated by pattern of head and pattern of median wing coverts.

**CAUTION:** some of these characters are not always possible to see due to overlap.



Lesser Kestrel. Adult. Female.

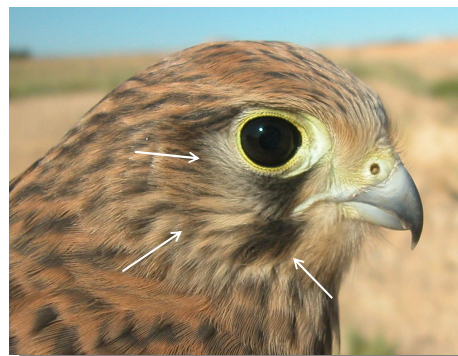


Lesser Kestrel. Juvenile.

Lesser Kestrel. Pattern of head: dark moustachial stripe poorly distinct, pale cheeks with thin streaks and no dark line on the eye.



Common Kestrel. Adult. Female.



Common Kestrel. Juvenile.

Common Kestrel. Pattern of head: dark moustachial stripe clearly distinct, pale cheeks with dark streaks and thin dark line on the eye.



Lesser Kestrel. Adult. Female. Pattern of median wing coverts: dark band on edge with V-shape.



Common Kestrel. Adult. Female. Pattern of median wing coverts: dark band on edge with triangular shape.