

403 Southern Grey Shrike

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Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Male (22-V).

SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE (*Lanius meridionalis*)

IDENTIFICATION

23-25 cm. Grey upperparts; pale underparts with pinkish tinge; grey head with narrow white supercilium; dark mask; dark wing with a white patch on base of primaries.

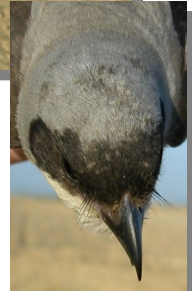


Southern Grey Shrike. Pattern of wing, head and breast.



SIMILAR SPECIES

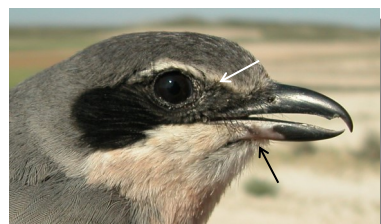
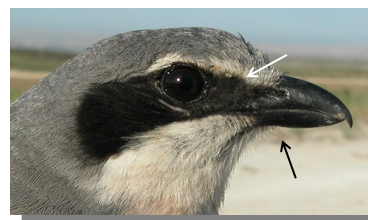
Lesser Grey Shrike is similar, but with smaller size; bigger white patch on wing; without white supercilium and broader black band on forehead.



Lesser Grey Shrike: pattern of head, crown and wing

SEXING

Male tends to have deep black loreal stripe; in **breeding** season bill all black. **Female** tends to have loreal stripe not entirely black but with some grey admixed; in **breeding** season with base of lower mandible pale. (**CAUTION:** the characteristics described are only valid for extreme birds, better if pair is together; in **breeding** season confirm checking the brood patch or cloacal protuberance). **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.



Southern Grey Shrike. Breeding season. Sexing. Head pattern: top male; bottom female.

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AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile with fresh plumage; body feathers pale grey.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with moult limit between black moulted greater coverts and unmoulted brownish primary coverts; moulted wing feathers blacker; if unmoulted greater coverts then with white-buff tips.

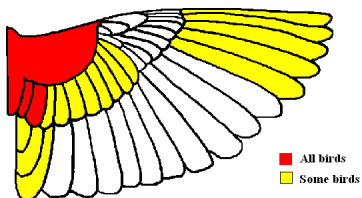
Adult without moult limits on wing, all feathers uniformly black; greater coverts with white tips.



Southern Grey Shrike. Ageing. Pattern of head: top adult male; bottom juvenile.

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts and a variable number of greater coverts; some birds may moult also tertials, some tail feathers and outer primaries; usually finished in November. Both age classes have a **prebreeding** moult including mainly some body feathers; sometimes also some inner greater coverts, tertials and central tail feathers.



Southern Grey Shrike. Extent of postjuvenile moult.

PHENOLOGY

I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII

STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident. Widely distributed throughout the Region in open landscapes, absent from the Pyrenees.



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Female (22-V)



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. 2nd year. Male (04-VI).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. 2nd year. Female (07-V)

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Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Juvenile (20-VIII)



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Head pattern: top male (22-V); bottom female (22-V).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Head pattern: top 2nd year male (04-VI); middle 2nd year female (07-V); bottom juvenile (20-VIII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (22-V); right female (22-V).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (04-VI); top right 2nd year female (07-V); left juvenile (20-VIII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Upperpart pattern: left male (22-V); right female (22-V).

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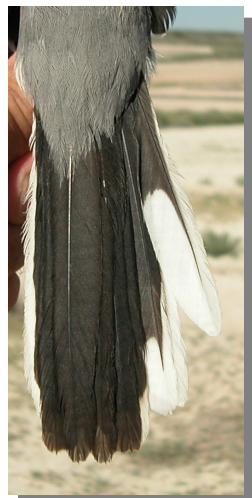
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Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Tail pattern: top left 2nd year male (04-VI); top right 2nd year female (07-V); left juvenile (20-VIII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Upper-part pattern: top left 2nd year male (04-VI); top right 2nd year female (07-V); left juvenile (20-VIII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (22-V); right female (22-V).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (22-V).

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Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (22-V).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (04-VI).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. 2nd year. Female: pattern of wing (07-V).



Southern Grey Shrike. Spring. Juvenile: pattern of wing (20-VIII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Male (23-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Female (05-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Male (25-XI).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Female (04-XII).

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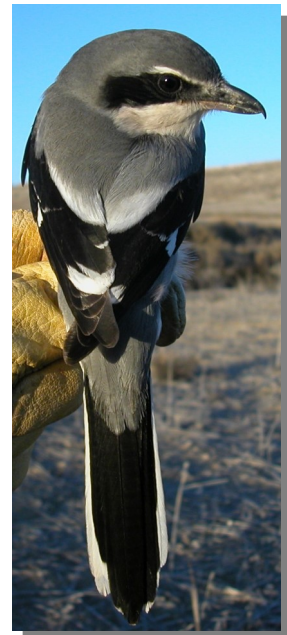
Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Head pattern: top male (23-XII); bottom female (05-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Breast pattern: left male (25-XI); right female (04-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Head pattern: top male (25-XI); bottom female (04-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Upperaprt pattern: left male (23-XII); right female (05-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (23-XII); right female (05-XII).

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Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Tail pattern: left male (23-XII); right female (04-XII).

Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Upperpart pattern: left male (25-XI); right female (04-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (23-XII); right female (05-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Male: pattern of wing (23-XII).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (25-XI).

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Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Male: pattern of wing (25-XI).



Southern Grey Shrike. Winter. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (04-XII).