

406 Eurasian Jay

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Jay. Adult (18-II).

EURASIAN JAY (*Garrulus glandarius*)

IDENTIFICATION

32-34 cm. Grey-brown plumage; pale vent; crown streaked white and black; dark wings with blue alula and wing coverts barred black; white tail coverts.



Jay. Pattern of head and primary coverts.



SIMILAR SPECIES

This species is unmistakable.

SEXING

Plumage of both sexes alike. **Male** slightly larger than **female** but considerable overlap.

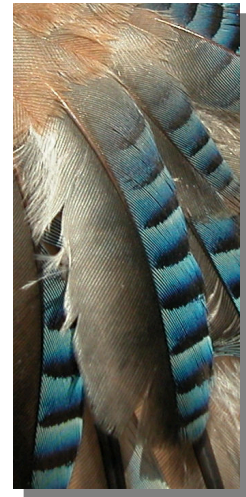
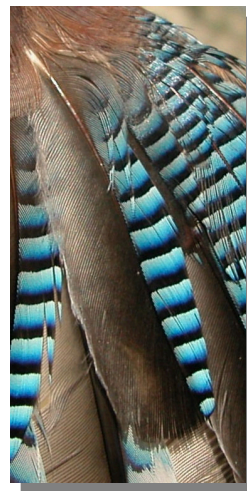
AGEING

3 age groups can be recognized:

Juvenile resembles **adult**, but crown only slightly streaked; fluffly plumage; fresh feathers.

1st year autumn/2nd year spring with the outermost greater covert with 7 to 9 black bars; black cross-bars on blue feathers distributed with irregularity (different width or bars at varying intervals); if moult limit within greater coverts, then retained **juvenile** are shorter; if all greater coverts have been changed then with differences between bars pattern of greater coverts and primary coverts; tip of the 5th tail feather quite rounded.

Adult with the outermost greater covert with 9 to 12 black bars; black cross-bars on blue feathers distributed with regularity; greater coverts without moult limitis; similar bars pattern between greater coverts and primary coverts; tip of the 5th tail feather quite square.



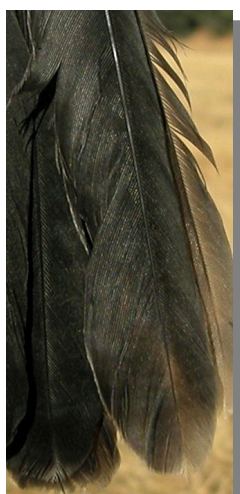
Jay. Ageing. Number of black bars on the outermost greater covert: left adult; right juvenile.

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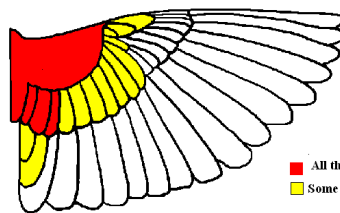
Jay. Ageing. Regularity on pattern of the black bars on primary coverts: top adult; bottom juvenile.



Jay. Ageing. Tip of the 5th tailfeather: left adult, right juvenile

MOULT

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult involving body feathers, lesser and median coverts, none to all greater coverts, none to all alula feathers and sometimes inner tertials; usually finished in October.



Jay. Extent of postjuvenile moult

■ All the specimens
■ Some specimens

PHENOLOGY

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

STATUS IN ARAGON

Resident. Widely distributed throughout the region, absent only from the Ebro Basin.



Jay. 2nd year (13-I).



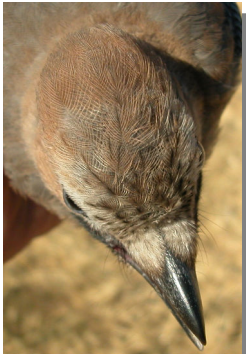
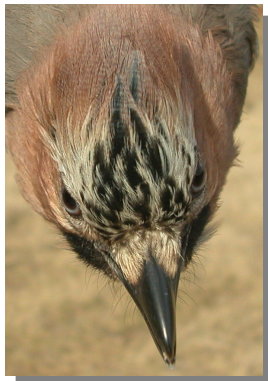
Jay. Juvenile (31-VII).

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Jay. Head pattern and iris colour: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).



Jay. Crown pattern: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).



Jay. Breast pattern: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).



Jay. Upperpart pattern: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).

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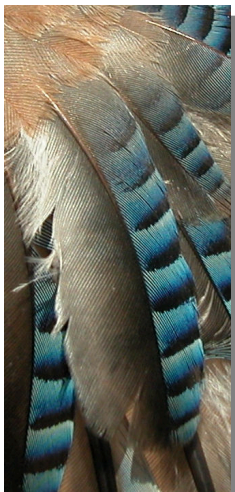
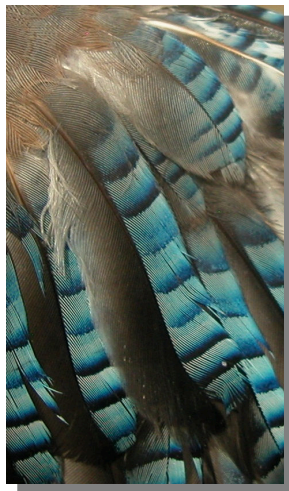
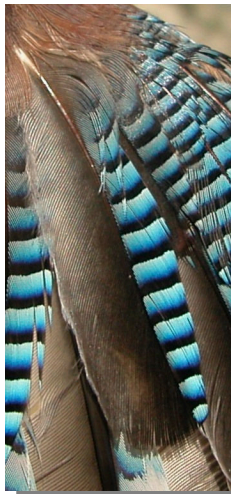
Jay. Tail pattern and width or the 5th feather: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).



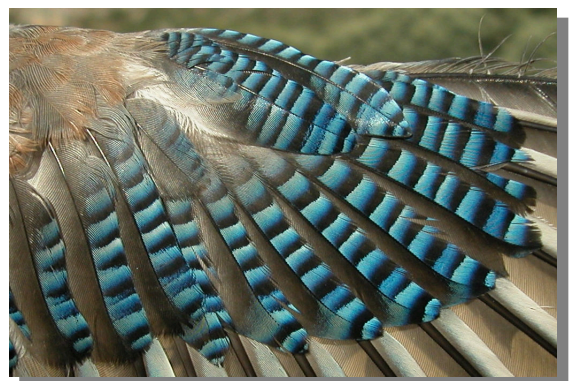
Jay. Adult. Pattern of the dark barred on the blue wing feathers (18-II).



Jay. 2nd year. Pattern of the dark barred on the blue wing feathers (13-I).



Jay. Number of black bars on the outermost great covert: top left adult (18-II); top right 2nd year (13-I); left juvenile (31-VII).



Jay. Juvenile. Pattern of the dark barred on the blue wing feathers (31-VII).

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Jay. Adult: pattern of wing (18-II).



Jay. 2nd year: pattern of wing (13-I).



Jay. Juvenile: pattern of wing (31-VII).