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## Identifying the American Goldfinch

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# Identifying the

# American Goldfinch

Three keys to recognizing the friendly finch in your own backyard!

1

## Field Markings

Size of a pen



Seasonal changes

Beak turns **orange** in the Spring, gray in other seasons

Males in spring and summer are **bright yellow**

Females and non-breeding males are a dull **yellow-brown**

2

## Habitat & Distribution



### Habitat

- Open fields, meadows, & grasslands
- Cultivated orchards & gardens



### Distribution

- Summer breeding range across North America, coast to coast
- Winter range from southern Canada, through the US, to Mexico



3

## Behavior

### Social Behavior

Flies in bouncy, acrobatic groups, males display their agility to females

### Food Preference

Uses feet and conical beak to gain access to seeds & thistle

### Common Vocalizations

Per-twee-twee-twee, Po-ta-to-chip, Ti-di-di-di

By Meg Low & Laura Mooney