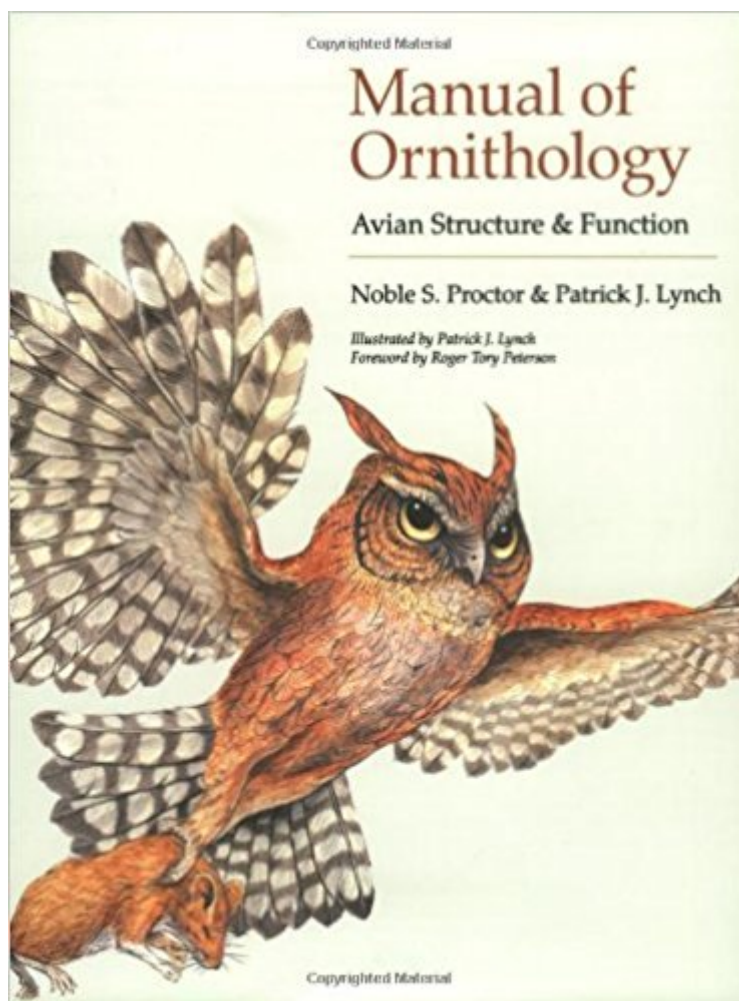


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# Manual Of Ornithology: Avian Structure And Function



## Synopsis

This book is a visual guide to the structure and anatomy of birds. It is one of the most heavily illustrated ornithology references ever written. A concise atlas of anatomy, it contains more than 200 specially prepared accurate and clear drawings that include material never illustrated before. The text is as informative as the drawings; written at a level appropriate to undergraduate students and to bird lovers in general, it discusses why birds look and act the way they do. Designed to supplement a basic ornithology textbook, the *Manual of Ornithology* covers systematics and evolution, topography, feathers and flight, the skeleton and musculature, and the digestive, circulatory, respiratory, excretory, reproductive, sensory, and nervous systems of birds, as well as field techniques for watching and studying birds. Each chapter concludes with a list of key references for the topic covered, with a comprehensive bibliography at the end of the volume. The book will be a guide and reference for every level of bird study. A basic tool for investigation for anyone curious about the fascinating world of birds.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The aim of this book is that of an undergraduate textbook-laboratory manual combination on ornithology. A chapter on field techniques offers a crash course in bird study in the wild and presents new and important information on avian migration. The rest of the book details bird anatomy, physiology, and classification. Over 200 quality labeled drawings, many unique in their lifelike perspective, dovetail with the text, thereby serving to clarify difficult information. Suggested

hands-on exercises require the examination of dead birds, affording the motivated reader practical experiences. The book provides an accurate, up-to-date, self-contained course in ornithology for the advanced lay reader. General collections would be better served by the more inclusive *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Ornithology* (LJ 12/1/91). This is recommended for academic libraries. - Frank Reiser, Nassau Community Coll., Garden City, N.Y. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

"As this book demonstrates in excellently clear drawings and text, a bird is a superbly evolved match of structure with function." — Brian Bertram, *Times Literary Supplement* "The book provides an accurate, up-to-date, self-contained course in ornithology for the advanced lay reader." — *Library Journal* "A laboratory manual for the academic student, an invaluable reference tool for artists, and a rich source of information for the ordinary birder." — *Bird Watcher's Digest* "Here is a volume that has no parallel. . . . Profusely illustrated with drawings by coauthor Lynch, this will be a good reference book for those interested in the details of avian anatomy." — Jerome A. Jackson, *Science Books & Films* "A stunning work that integrates a conversational text with abundant, artistic illustrations. . . . A valuable reference work for scientists working with birds, for bird banders and for anatomists." — Edward H. Burt, Jr., *American Scientist* "The text is complete and up-to-date, the authors having incorporated the most recent information available. . . . The writing is clear and easy to follow. I found it easy to retrieve information because the layout is clear and well organized, key words being highlighted in bold face characters. The definitions of ornithological terms are precise, succinct, and carefully worded. . . . It should be consulted by all students enrolled in an ornithology course. I recommend its reading also to amateurs and bird watchers who will find clear explanations about topic often difficult to access elsewhere in the ornithological literature." — Henri Quillet, *The Canadian Field Naturalist* "[This book] is richly illustrated with excellent line drawings by Lynch, which cause this manual to stand out from other ornithology texts I have seen. While written primarily as an ornithology lab manual, it would be a valuable reference book in the birder's library with an inexpensive paperback edition making it a practical purchase." — *Wildlife Activist* "An impressive collaborative effort between a scientist and an illustrator . . . Profusely and beautifully illustrated, this book provides a wealth of encyclopedic and tabular information on all biological systems of birds, from skeletal to nervous system." — *Northeastern Naturalist* "This excellent reference should provide the necessary background information to enable one to pursue further interests in this science. The abundant illustrations form an important background to the book and clearly show

anatomical as well as other pertinent information. I recommend this book for any birder who wants to become more than just a watcher." – Charles E. Keller, Indiana Audubon Quarterly "A gold mine of facts. . . . Every library and biology department, as well as every birder, should have a copy close at hand." – Roger Tory Peterson, from the foreword "A superb contribution to ornithology. It clearly represents the most attractive and accessible contribution to form and function in birds. This book will be of tremendous appeal to academic and lay ornithologists alike." – Steve Zack, Yale University "Students, their instructors, and other interested readers will welcome availability of the well illustrated Manual of Ornithology now in a paperback edition." – George A. Clark, University of Connecticut "This is a tremendous book; to say that it has no rival among laboratory manuals for ornithology is a dramatic understatement. It is clear, comprehensive, and has the most beautiful as well as useful illustrations possibly ever seen in an ornithology textbook." – Margaret Rubega, University of Connecticut

This manual goes in depth with plenty of information on the physiology of birds. There are many excellent illustrations and charts for reference. I felt like a medical student learning the many types of muscle groups and other internal workings. This book is good if you're looking to learn what makes a bird a bird and don't necessarily care about the life of birds. I would recommend the Gill 3rd ed of Ornithology for that side. It is only dated in the taxonomy areas. So for the other reviewers saying it is "ancient" it is NOT. All other aspects of this book are very relevant today.

I am a birder--but never studied ornithology at University. This book filled that gap---and how. It has everything you ever wanted to know about bird biology but didn't have a clue where to go for the answers. It goes where no field guide has gone before...I found it comprehensive, direct, easy to read and understand, and complete with decent illustrations. I would highly recommend this text to anybody who loves birds and wants to know more about how they are put together under all those feathers (and about the feathers). The only thing better would have been a dissection. . . and a professor.

I wanted a solid primer on bird biology; not a 600-page college-level textbook that required a degree in English to read nor a basic overview of bird anatomy. I found exactly what I was looking for in Noble S. Proctor's Manual of Ornithology: Avian Structure & Function. Although this book was published in 1993, I compared it to other ornithology books that were published as late as 2010. In my humbled opinion, this book beats them all. It is heavily illustrated; a virtual atlas of avian

anatomy. It is written in clear, concise, and easy-to-understand text. It is written at a level that targets undergraduate students and amateur ornithologists. In a little more than 300 pages, the *Manual of Ornithology: Avian Structure & Function*, provided to me the comprehensive primer I was looking for in bird biology.

I'm an absolute novice in matters of avian anatomy. I like birds and make miniature sculptures of them. Having said that, this book is full of useful information for the bird lover and artist alike. If I have to say something negative, remember it's a textbook, so it can be repetitive sometimes.

The bird lover in my life said this was just perfect!

I am an amateur bird carver and bought this book to help me with carving the various features of a bird. In this regard, this book is amazing. It has well written explanations and has superb illustrations. This book will be kept close to my work area and be used as a reference for technical information and well defined illustrations. I also have birds (parrots) for pets, and do a lot of bird watching. This book will add to your enjoyment and expertise in these areas as well. If you are a bird lover, get this book. It's well worth the money.

Helped my daughter get a degree.

Best ornithology book out there!

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