

How bird-friendly is your place?

How bird-friendly is your place? (Your place could be your garden, school, kindy or local park). Here's a simple way of finding out:



1. How many birds are there?

Find a quiet place to sit and record how many different kinds of birds you can see. Score your result below:

- Excellent** - Lots of birds seen (more than 10 different kinds) – list them.
- OK** - Some birds seen (more than 5 different kinds)
- Poor** - No birds seen.

2. Bird habitat

What does the area look like? Is it bird-friendly? Score your result below:

- Excellent** - Dense growth of trees, shrubs and plants with flowers, seeds and fruit to eat and lots of places for birds to nest.
- OK** - Some trees, shrubs and plants present with flowers, seeds and fruit to eat and some places for birds to nest.
- Poor** - Short lawn or bare soil or concrete with no trees shrubs or flowers or bird nesting places.

3. Site connection

Looking at your site, is it near other areas of native vegetation or plantings? Score your result below:

- Excellent** - This site is connected to an area of dense native bush or plantings
- OK** - This site is connected to an area with some plantings
- Poor** - This site is isolated. It is surrounded by short lawn, bare soil or concrete with no places for birds to feed or nest.

4. Bird food

Is there much food available for birds? Score your result below:

- Excellent** - Lots of fruiting trees and shrubs for food, tangly shrubs for nesting, flowers for insects and lots of invertebrates (including beetles, caterpillars and spiders) for insect eating birds.
- OK** - Some fruiting trees and shrubs for food, tangly shrubs for nesting, flowers for insects invertebrates (including beetles, caterpillars and spiders) for insect eating birds.
- Poor** - Not many trees for food, shrubs for nesting or invertebrates found.

5. Bird predators

Are there signs that predators are about? This might be difficult to answer as many pest animals only come out at night. Find out how to [Find Animal Pests](#).

- Excellent** - No introduced mammals in the area.
- OK** - Some introduced mammals in the area.
- Poor** - Lots of introduced mammals in the area (note which ones are the main predators of birds – eg stoats or rats).

How well did your site do? Do the birds in your area need some help?