

Nests, Eggs & Nestlings of Select Cavity-nesting Bird Species

Species	Typical Nesting Materials (will vary depending upon materials available)	Eggs	Incubation Period	Nestling Period
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Rootlets, grass, weed stems and dry cow or horse dung. Cup is lined with fine grasses and matted hair or fur.	4 - 5; white, sometimes with pinkish white background. Marked with fine or heavy streaks or blotches in browns, purples, and grays	14 - 16 days	13 - 17 days
Carolina Chickadee	Dry or green mosses, lichens, fine strips of inner bark of cedars, down from ferns. Usually quite a bit of hair (including deer, opossum, and human). Similar to a titmouse's nest.	6 - 8; white, dotted with browns. Significantly smaller than wren or titmouse eggs.	11 - 16 days, usually 15	13 - 19 days
Tufted Titmouse; Black-crested Titmouse	Layered with mostly green mosses on bottom and soft cotton and hair on top. May also include wool, leaves, fibrous bark, and pieces of shed snakeskin. (Titmouse will pluck hairs from wildlife and humans.) Similar to a chickadee's nest.	Usually 5 - 6; white or cream-white, speckled with browns	12 - 14 days	15 - 18 days
Carolina Wren	Mostly dried leaves, inner bark and sticks; also grasses, weed stalks, mosses, rootlets, feathers, molted snakeskin	5 - 6; white, pale pink, spotted with browns	12 - 14 days	10 - 16 days; avg. 12 - 14
Bewick's Wren	Mostly sticks; also green mosses, dead leaves, cotton, hairs, wool, feathers, pieces of snakeskin. Cup lined with soft materials.	5 - 7; white, irregularly dotted; spotted with browns, purples, gray	12 - 16 days	14 - 16
Eastern Bluebird	Usually well built; primarily dried grasses or pine needles. Some weed stems and fine twigs. Sometimes lined with finer grasses, hairs, feathers. Starts out as a small pile of nesting material, which could be misidentified as a House Sparrow's.	Usually 4 - 6; pale blue. Sometimes white	11 - 19 days avg. 13 - 14	15 - 18 days
House Sparrow (imported species)	Voluminous jumble forming a dome of dried grasses, weeds, cellophane, cotton, feathers, string and hair. (Passive House Sparrow control includes the removal of the nest, once it is verified. Active House Sparrow control includes trapping and dispatching the House Sparrows.)	4 - 6; whitish with blotches and speckles of brown, gray, bluish-gray and black	10 - 13 days	14 - 17 days