

BEHAVIORAL TRAITS OF A HOUSE SPARROW

Range and Habitat:

This bird was introduced and is resident throughout temperate North America. It is native to Eurasia and North Africa, and introduced on all continents, excepting Antarctica, and many islands. Preferred habitats include cities, towns, and agricultural areas.

Breeding and Nesting:

Nests are built between February and May. Five or six white eggs, lightly speckled with brown, are laid in a loose mass of grass, feathers, strips of paper, string, and similar debris placed in a man-made or natural cavity. House Sparrows nest in crevices inside and on buildings, and in coniferous and deciduous trees.

Foraging and Feeding:

The House Sparrow forages for food on the ground, in trees and shrubs, and in urban and rural areas. Its diet consists of insects, caterpillars, seeds, grains, and fruits. This bird has also been seen inspecting car grilles for insects.

Readily Eats:

Bread Crumbs, Canary Seed, Sunflower Seed

Vocalization:

A twittering series of chirps are emitted by the House Sparrow. Its call is a monotonous repeated cheep-cheep-cheep.

Similar Species:

The adult male House Sparrow is quite distinctive, but might be confused with the Eurasian Tree Sparrow. The Eurasian Tree Sparrow has a black spot on the ear coverts and an entirely brown crown. The female House Sparrow looks somewhat similar to a number of species of sparrows, but has unstreaked underparts, tawny streaks on the back, and a large yellowish bill.



Breeding Locations:

Forest edge, Grassland with scattered trees, Open landscapes

Breeding Type:

Abundant, Widespread

Breeding Population:

Forest edge, Grassland with scattered trees, Open landscapes

Egg Color: Blue, Light Green

Number of Eggs: 3 - 7

Incubation Days: 10 - 14

Egg Incubator: Both sexes

Nest Material:

Grass, straw, weeds, cotton, bits of debris, twigs, and feathers.

Migration: Nonmigratory