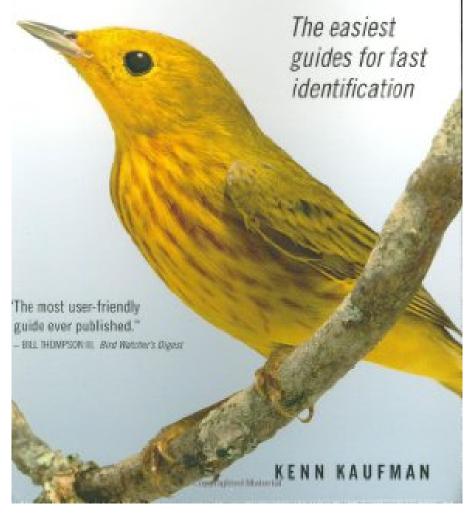


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Amazon.com Review

World-renowned birder Kenn Kaufman addresses a long-running paradox of bird field guides with his Focus Guide. While beginning birdwatchers prefer photographic guides like those by Donald Stokes, the physical traits that make identification easier are more readily discerned in the idealized paintings of illustrative guides like those by Roger Tory Peterson and National Geographic. Kaufman's groundbreaking work combines the best of both approaches by digitally enhancing photographic images to show the characteristics that are sometimes not apparent in photographs.

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From Publishers Weekly

Every spring, tens of thousands of bird-watchers migrate across the country in search of vireos, towhees, and violet-crowned hummingbirds; these birders can be recognized by their binoculars, their respect for nature and their frequent stillness and near-silence. By next spring, many of them will be toting this guide. Author and illustrator Kaufman (Lives of North American Birds) has long been one of the birdwatching community's stars. His colorful, practical and very portable book aims to become the new standard in the field. The book is small enough for a big jacket pocket, and can be held in one hand; color-coded tags divide its 16 sections on 16 classes of birds ("Ducks, Geese, Swans," "Chicken-Like Birds," "Medium-Sized Land

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In 2000 Houghton Mifflin first published the Kaufman Focus Guide to the Birds of North America. Critically acclaimed for its innovative design, the Kaufman guide began introducing a new generation to birding. In 2005, this new Kaufman Field Guide to Birds of North America is now the most up-to-date field guide, including dozens of changes by the American Ornithologists' Union in official names of birds; the addition of new species to reflect the latest scientific discoveries; and dozens of updated range maps. Additional information helps beginning birdwatchers get started, all in the same compact format that has made this guide the easiest to use for fast identification in the field.

- Sales Rank: #55224 in Books
- Brand: Houghton Mifflin
- Published on: 2005-04-14
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.50" h x 1.04" w x 4.50" l, 1.00 pounds
- Binding: Vinyl Bound
- 392 pages

Features

• FIELD GUIDE TO BIRDS OF N.A.

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Most helpful customer reviews

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Seems a little "smallish" for a field guide but certainly ...

By Ron Kittinger

Seems a little "smallish" for a field guide but certainly it's ultra-portable & can fit almost anywhere. Also I'm used to "AOU-order" in field guides & this differs slightly from that, but not in a huge way... Have only had a chance to use it for a week or so; will give more feedback later.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Great Bird Field Guide for Real Field Use - Easy to Use for Beginners

By D. Beatty

I have many different field guides for birding - Peterson, Stokes, National Geographic, Audubon, Smithsonian, and Sibley, as well as Kaufman.

There are a few key things that put Kaufman as my number one choice for field use.

1. It is small and sturdy - it actually will fit easily into a large coat pocket or a lumbar pack.

2. The pictures combine the best of drawing and photography.

3. It is easy to navigate to find a particular type of bird - well-organized and labeled.

4. It has essential information for ID including ranges, behavior/habitat, arrows pointing out key differences between similar species, etc., but not a lot of other information that is interesting but that I don't need in the field.

If you are an avid birder, you might want something that plays bird sounds in addition to this field guide, and you might like another guide or two that sit at home for more detailed reading or comparisons, but as a guide for field use I think this is the clear winner.

Update - 2016 - With a lot more birding experience under my belt now I see the advantages of Sibley's second edition - a lot more information necessary for sorting out difficult birds. But it is huge. For casual and beginner use, I still think Kaufman is a great choice. I know some beginning users who were essentially told off by experienced birders for using this guide book, but I know from my own experience and from what beginning birders say that this book is ideal for that set of people. Yes, an expert bird guide will not find this book that useful, but for backyard birders, new/beginning/novice birders and casual birders it is a very user-friendly and field-friendly resrouce.

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Great guide for the beginning birder

By Divascribe

This was described to me as a good guide for beginning birders. There are plenty of photos and descriptions of the birds, as well as range maps showing where the birds are likely to be found at different times of year. The maps are color-coded: red for summer, blue for winter and gray for migrating. Purple means the birds stay in one location year-round.

Similar species are grouped together, with photos on one page and descriptions on the facing page. There are tips for identifying birds, including their calls, and on choosing and using binoculars.

This is a detailed guide for the novice birder. Its compact size makes it easy to take along on birding expeditions.

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After knowing this extremely simple means to review and also get this **Kaufman Field Guide To Birds Of North America By Kenn Kaufman**, why don't you inform to others concerning by doing this? You could inform others to see this internet site and also go for browsing them preferred books Kaufman Field Guide To Birds Of North America By Kenn Kaufman As recognized, below are lots of listings that supply lots of sort of books to collect. Simply prepare couple of time and also net links to obtain guides. You can truly enjoy the life by checking out Kaufman Field Guide To Birds Of North America By Kenn Kaufman in a really simple fashion.

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