



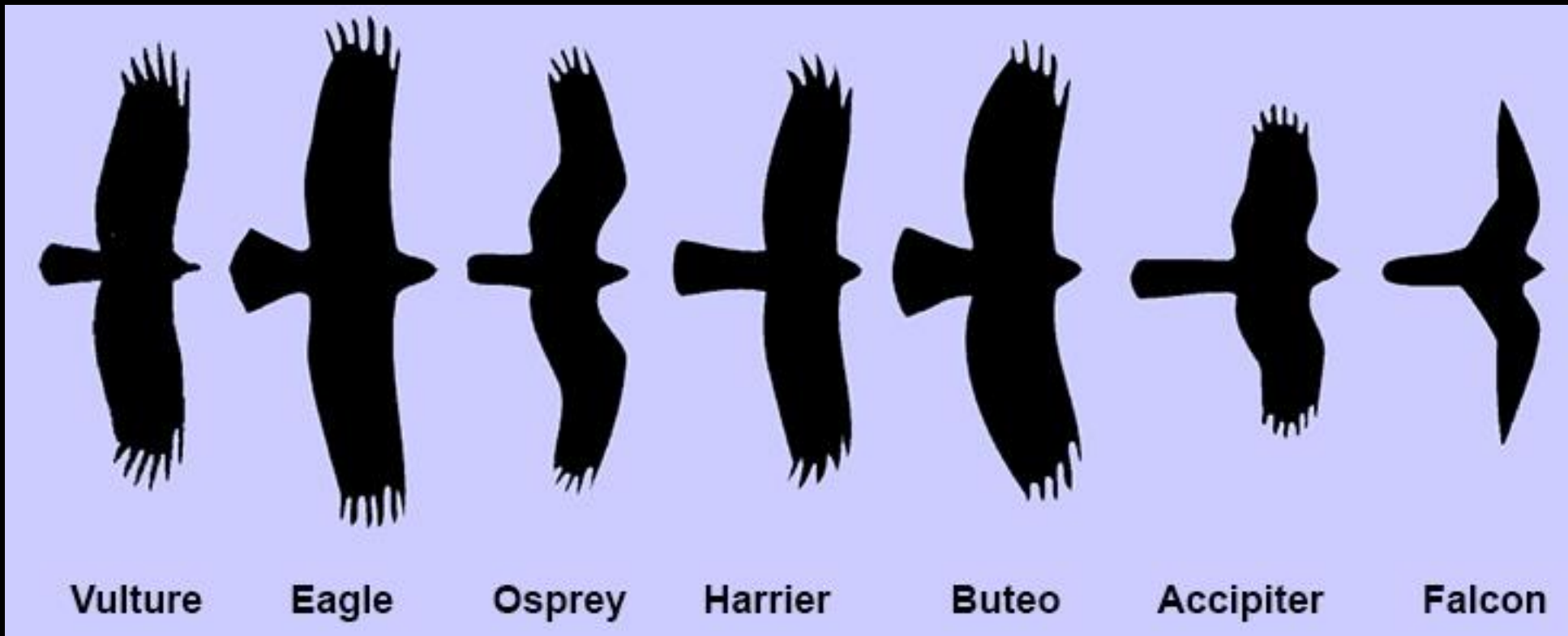
- The following pages have some identification markers for each of Falcons found in India
- To know more on these birds you can visit <http://ogaclicks.com/falcon/>
- If you are interested in coming on any of my tours or workshops please share your email id. I will keep you updated
- Mail me at [ogaclicks@gmail.com](mailto:ogaclicks@gmail.com)
- Follow me on Instagram : **ogajanak**
- You can also call me on (91) 9840119078 ,  
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## Raptors at a glance

Raptors : Any of numerous carnivorous birds that hunt and kill other animals

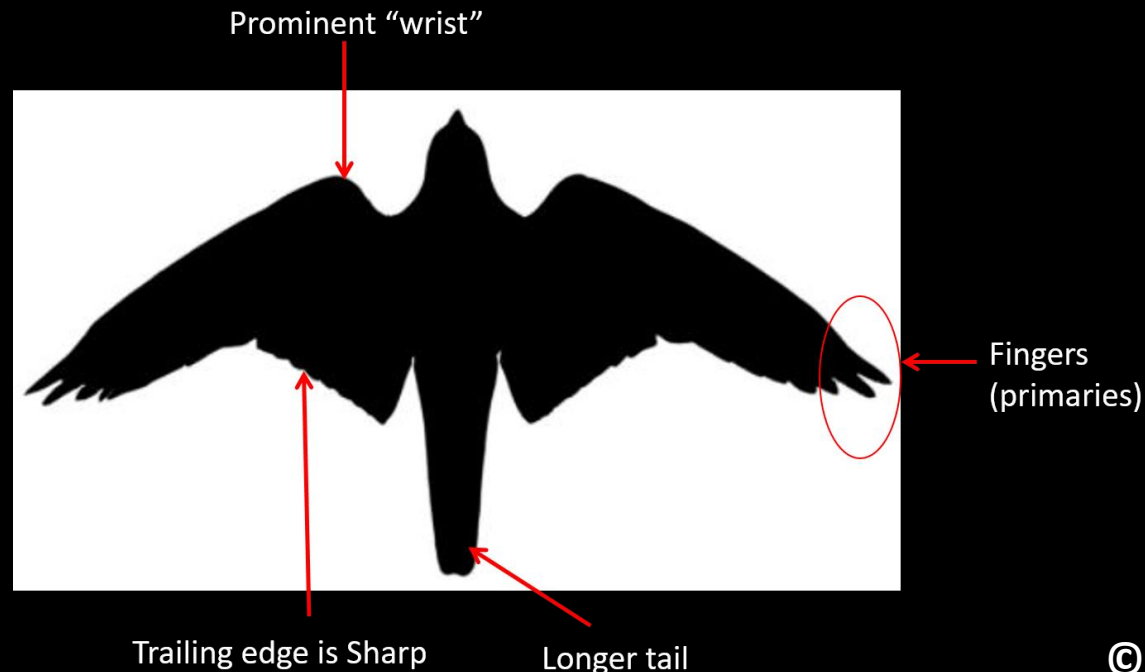
Derived from Latin word *rapere* : To ravish

Characterised by Hooked Beak, Talons and Flying abilities required to hunt & kill prey



# Falcons

- *Falcons have thin, tapered wings, which enable them to fly at high speed and change direction rapidly*
- *Falcons kill with their beaks, using a "tooth" on the side of their beaks*
- *Falcons exhibit sexual dimorphism - male & Female are different looking*
- *Peregrine Falcon is the fastest living thing. Dive recorded at 390 km /hr.*
- *Kestrel can hover over a place like an helicopter*



# List of Falcons found in India

Sno.	Name	Binomial Name
<b>Falcon</b>		
1	Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>
2	Barbary Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus peregrinoides</i>
3	Laggar Falcon	<i>Falco jugger</i>
4	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
5	Red-necked Falcon	<i>Falco chicquera</i>
6	Saker Falcon	<i>Falco cherrug</i>
7	Shaheen Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus peregrinator</i>
<b>Falconet</b>		
1	Collared Falconet	<i>Microhierax caerulescens</i>
2	Pied Falconet	<i>Microhierax melanoleucos</i>
<b>Hobby</b>		
1	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
2	Oriental Hobby	<i>Falco severus</i>
<b>Kestrel</b>		
1	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
2	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>
3	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>

## Amur Falcon identification Tips

Amur Falcon : *Falco amurensis* : Widespread passage migrant in India ( Nagaland is the best place to see them)

Red eyering

Slaty Grey Head & crown

Slaty Grey nape

Grey upperparts

Bill is black-tipped  
Grey with Red cere

Grey throat

Pale Grey underparts

Grey Coverts

Grey Secondaries

Grey Primaries

Legs are red

Chestnut thighs

Chestnut rump &  
undertail covert

Orange eyering

Grey Head & Crown

White chin  
& throat

Blackish  
moustache

Upperparts are Blue-  
grey with steaking

Underparts  
whitish, densely  
stripped black

Pale rufous rump &  
undertail covert

Banded Grey tail

Important id point

Both Sexes similar

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

Distribution

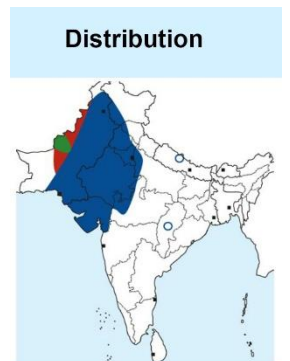
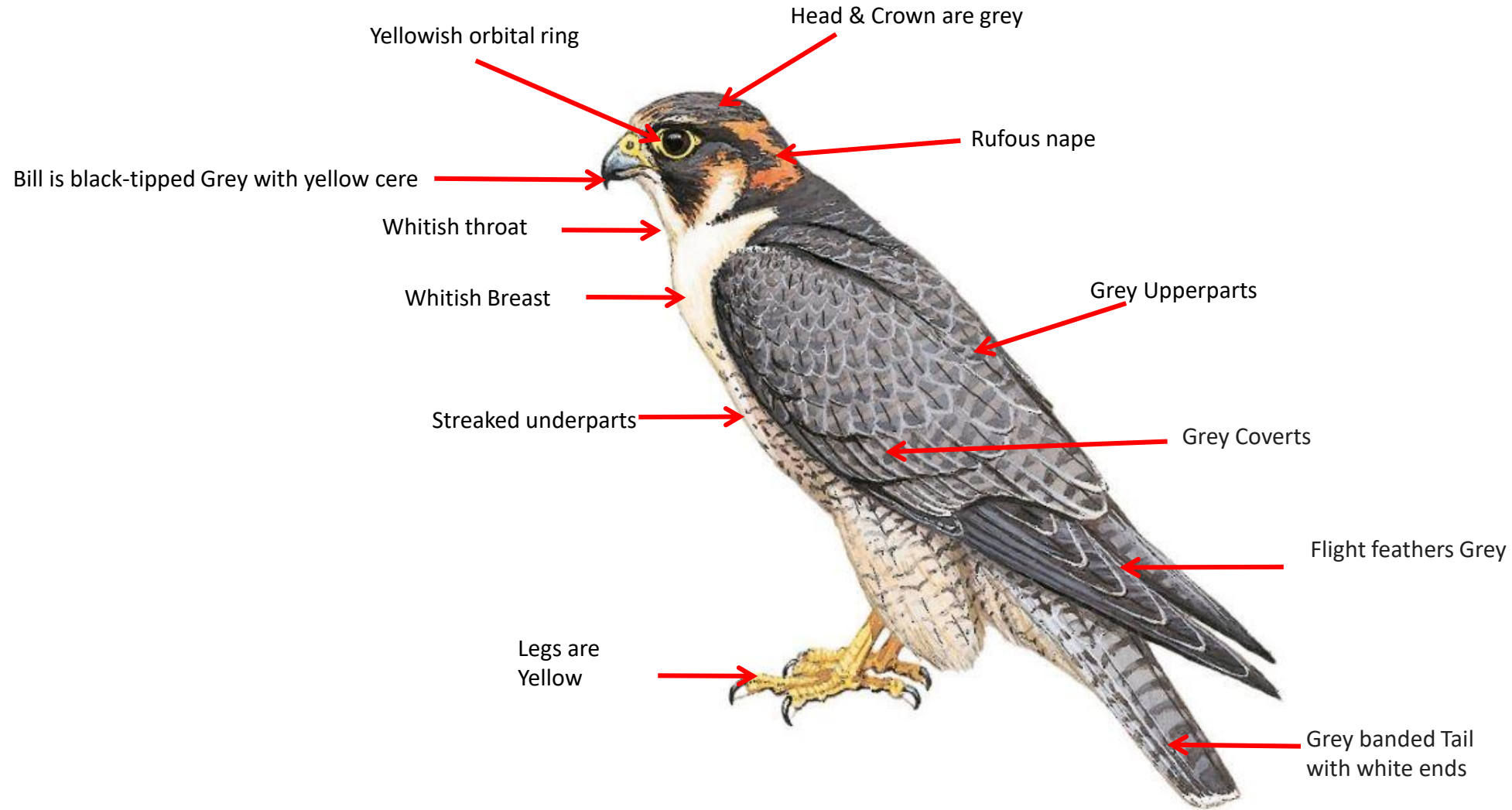


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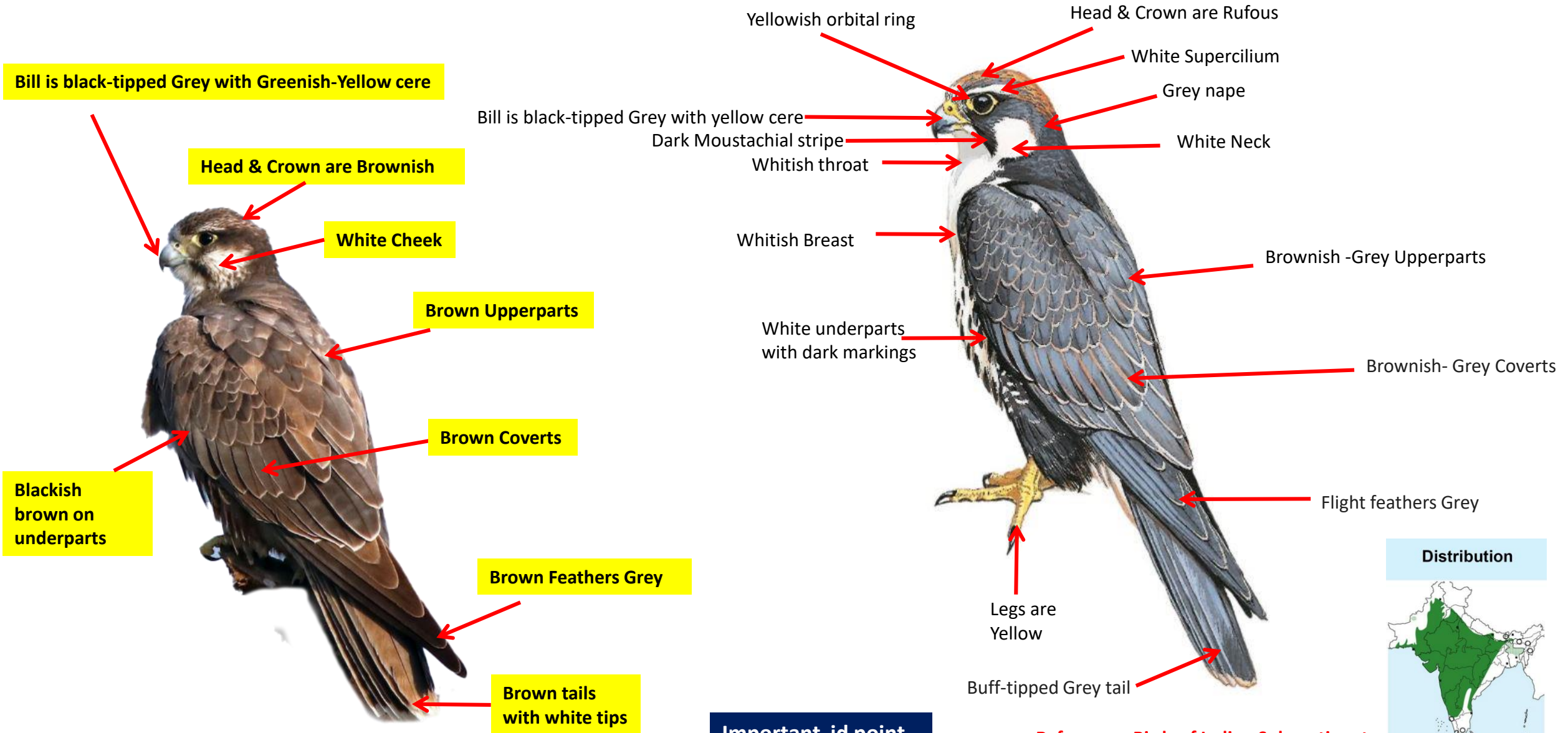
## Barbary Falcon identification Tips

**Barbary Falcon** : *Falco peregrinus peregrinoides* : Winter visitor to North West India



# Laggar Falcon identification Tips

Laggar Falcon : *Falco jugger*: Widespread Resident in India ( Except Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Eastern Ghats & North east)

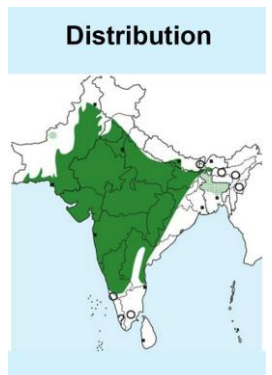


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**Important id point**

**Difference from Male**

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)



# Peregrine Falcon identification Tips

Peregrine Falcon : *Falco peregrinus* : Widespread Resident in India

Bill is black-tipped Grey with Greenish-Yellow cere

Head & Crown are Brownish

White Cheek

Brown Upperparts

Brown underparts with dense streaking

Brown Coverts

Brown Feathers Grey

Brown tails with white tips

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Bill is black-tipped Grey with yellow cere

Blackish facial stripe extending down from eye across malar

Yellowish orbital ring

Whitish throat

Whitish Breast with dark spots

White underparts with dark barring

Important id point

Difference from Male

Head & Crown are Bluish-Grey

Bluish Grey Nape

White Cheek

Bluish -Grey Upperparts

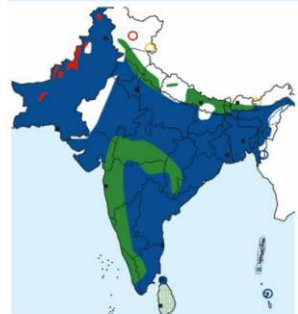
Bluish- Grey Coverts

Flight feathers Bluish Grey

Legs are Yellow

Banded Bluish Grey tail

Distribution

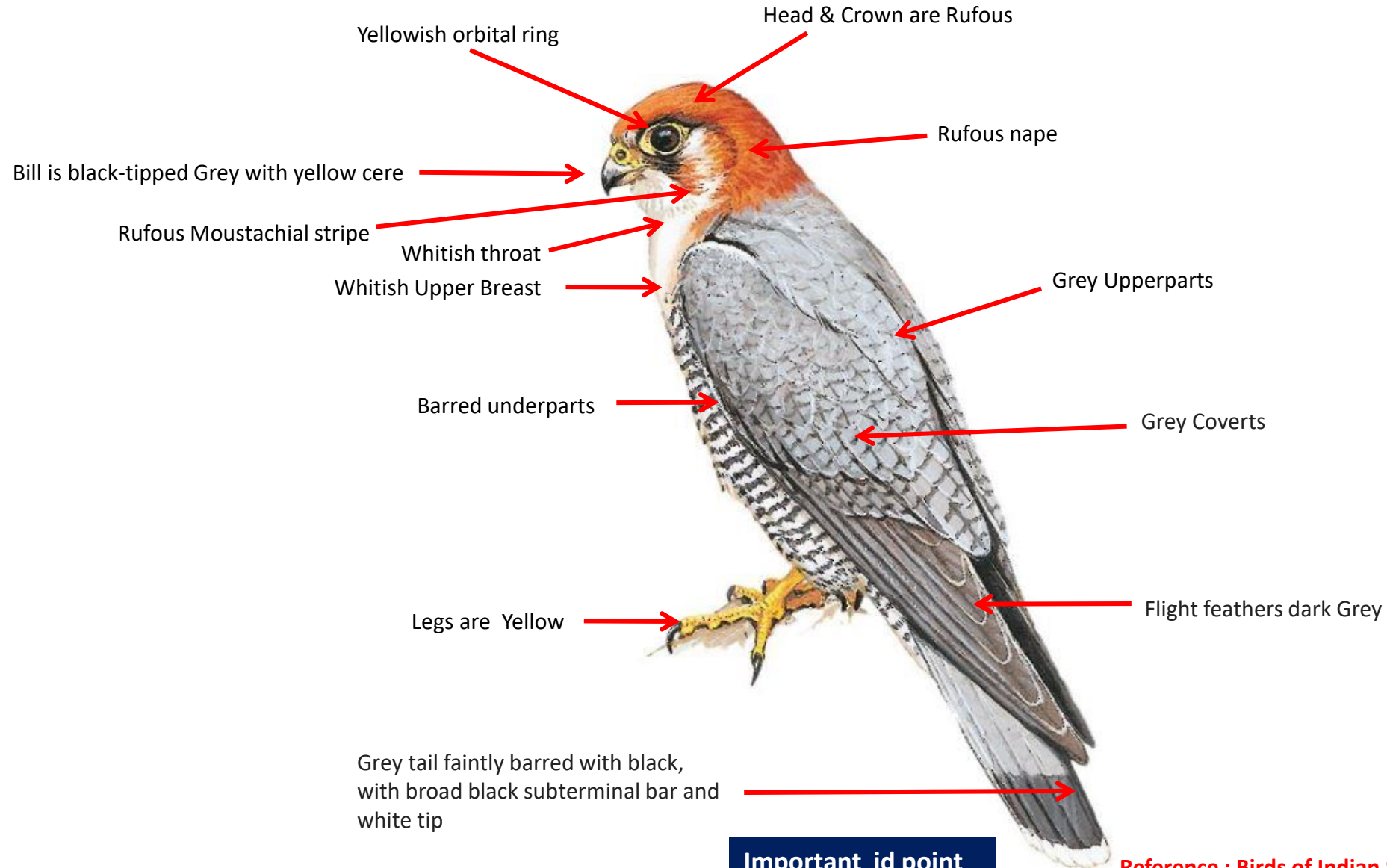


Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
www.HBW.com



# Red-neck Falcon identification Tips

Red-neck Falcon : *Falco chicquera* : Widespread Resident in India



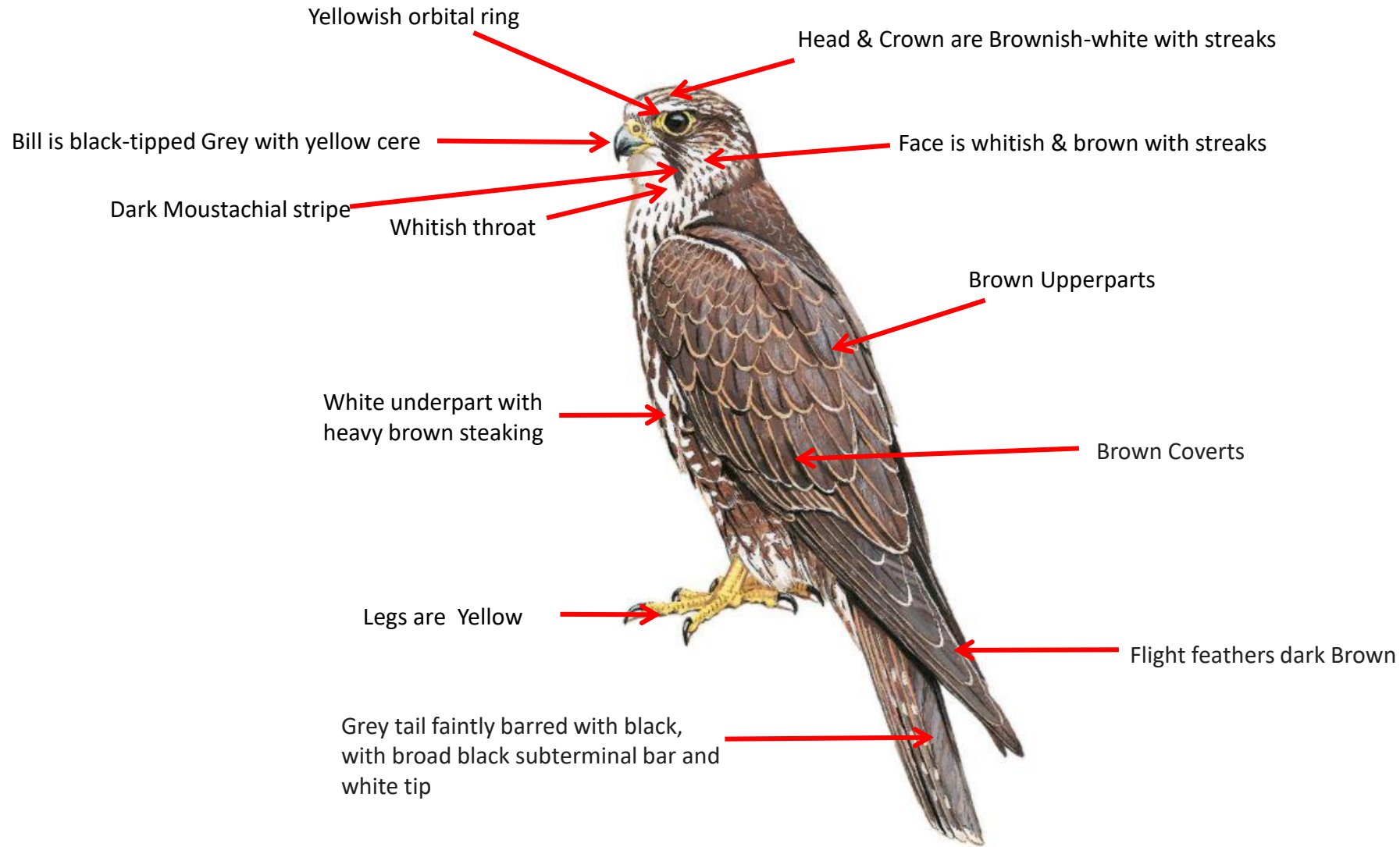
Important id point

Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

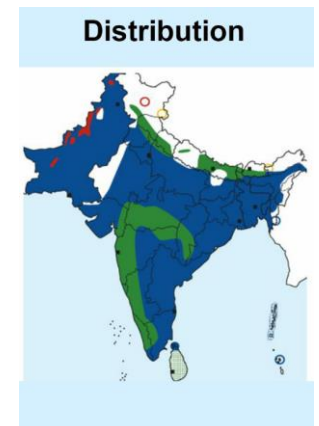
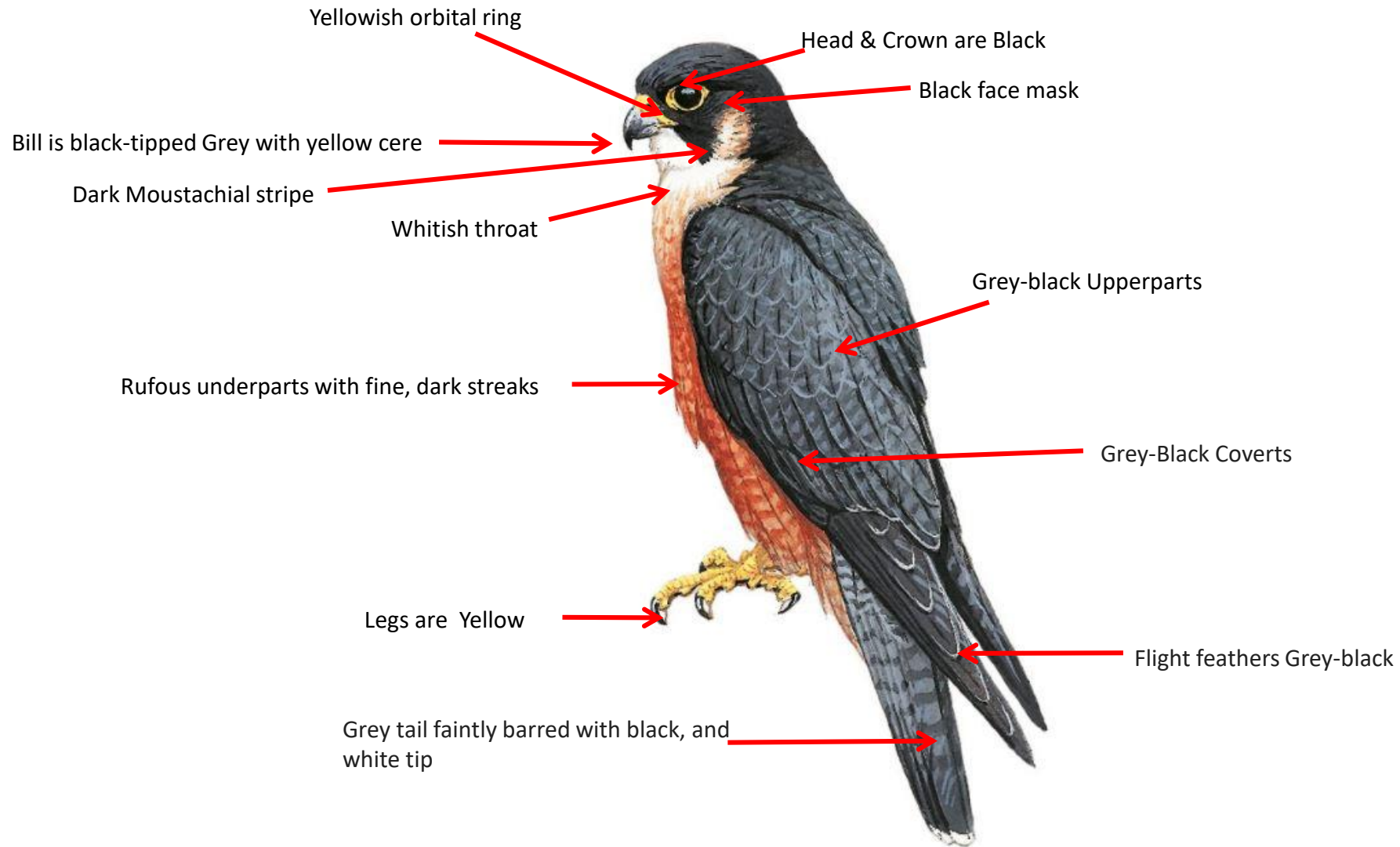
# Saker Falcon identification Tips

## Saker Falcon : *Falco cherrug*: Winter Visitor to Ladhak & Gujarat India



# Shaheen Falcon identification Tips

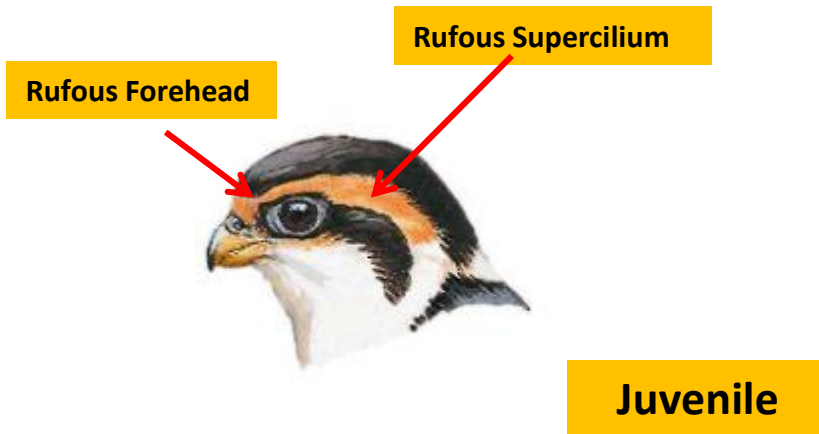
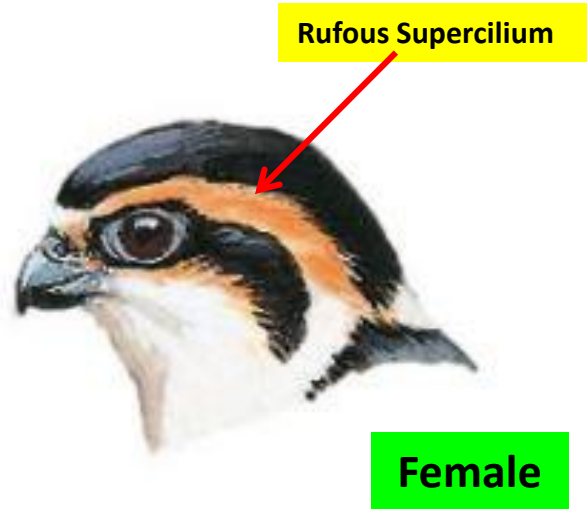
**Shaheen Falcon : *Falco peregrinus peregrinator* : Widespread Resident & Winter visitor in India**



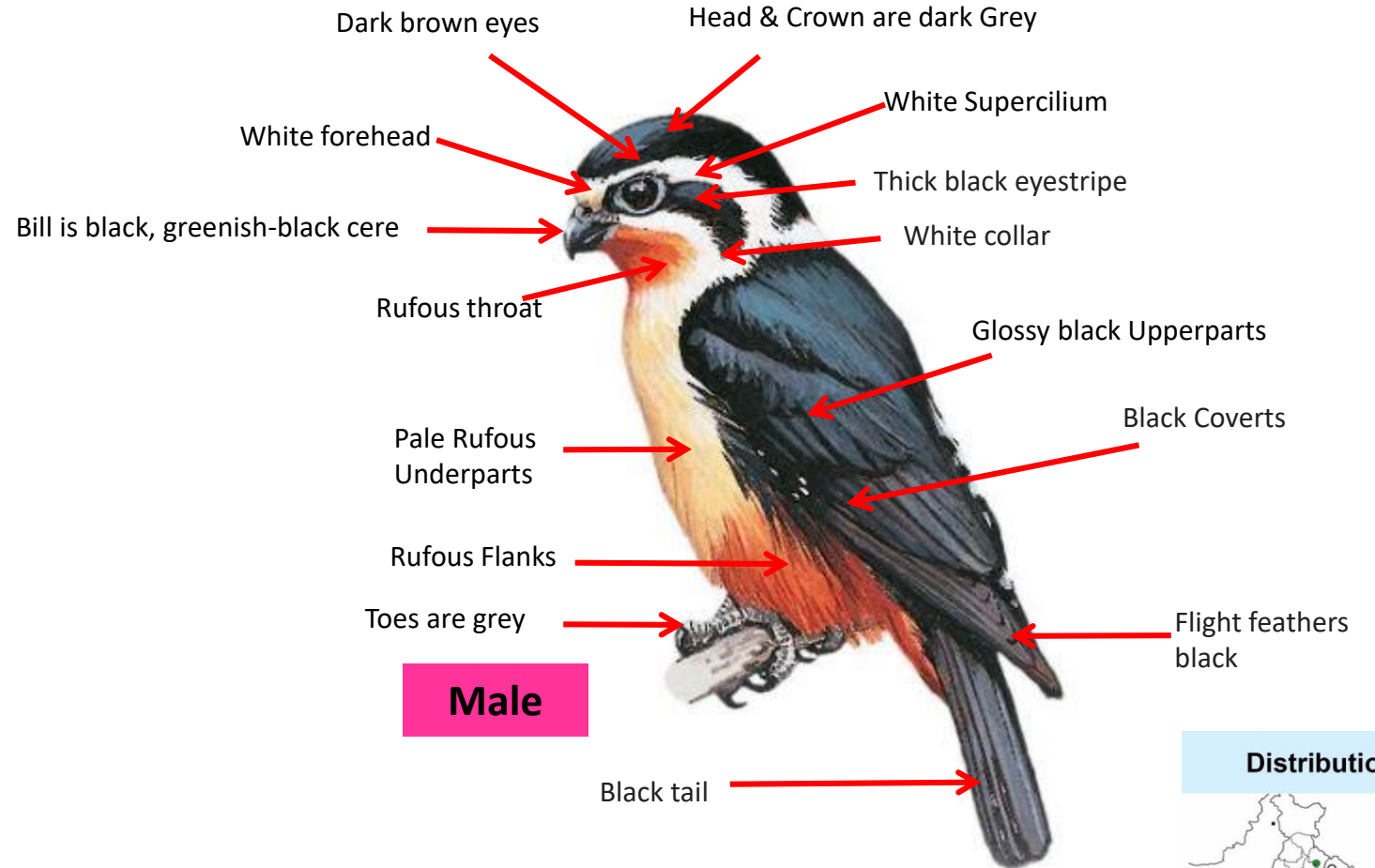
# FALCONET

# Collared Falconet identification Tips

Collared Falconet : *Microhierax caerulescens*: Resident of Himalayas & North East Orissa India



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Important id point

Difference from Male

Difference from Adult

Distribution



Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
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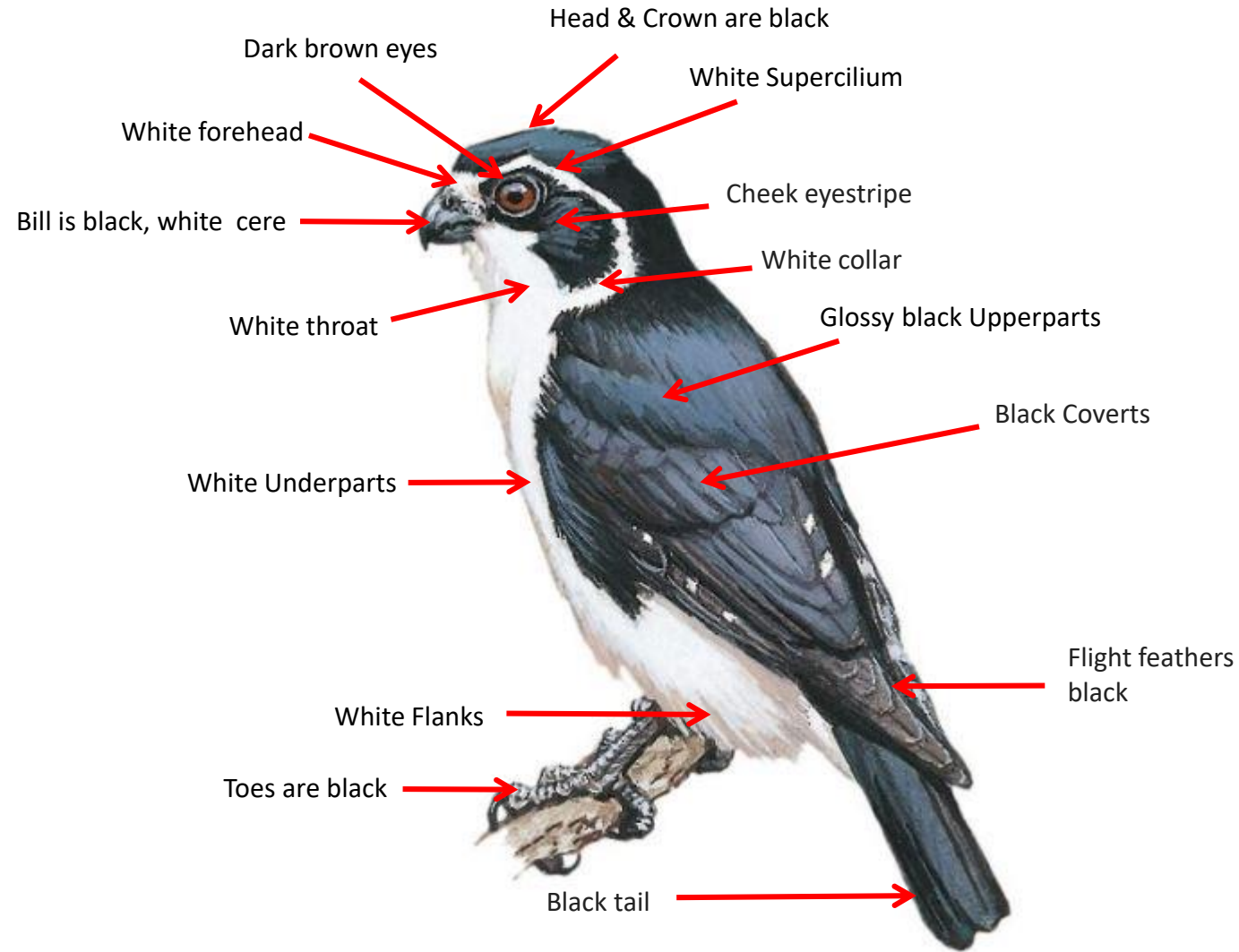


## Pied Falconet identification Tips

Pied Falconet : *Microhierax melanoleucos* : Resident of East Himalayas & North East India



Dark Forehead



### Distribution



Important id point

Both Sexes similar

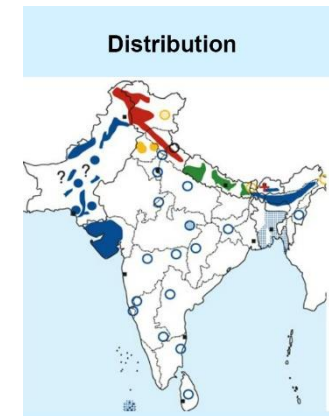
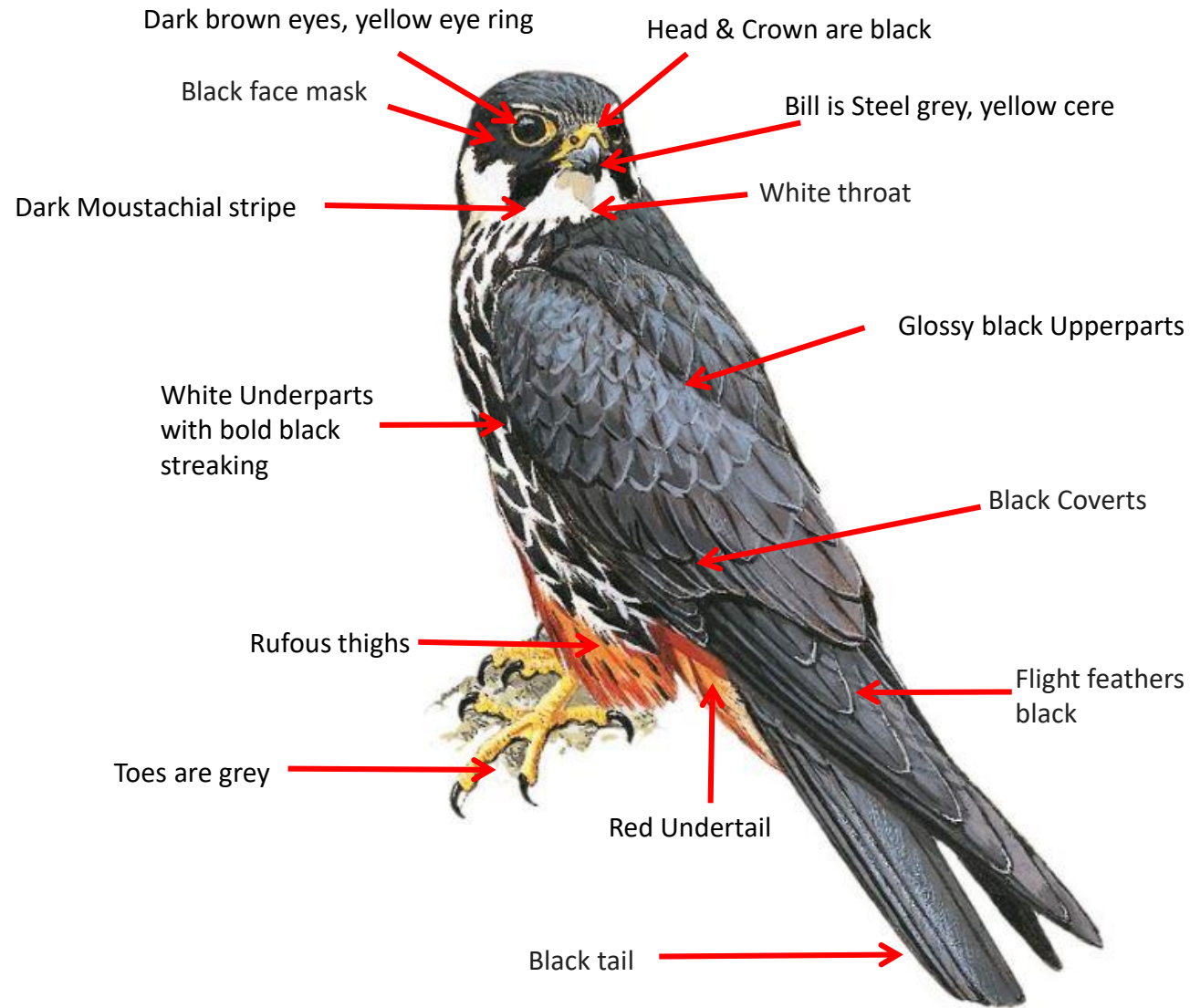
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Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
www.HBW.com

HOBBY

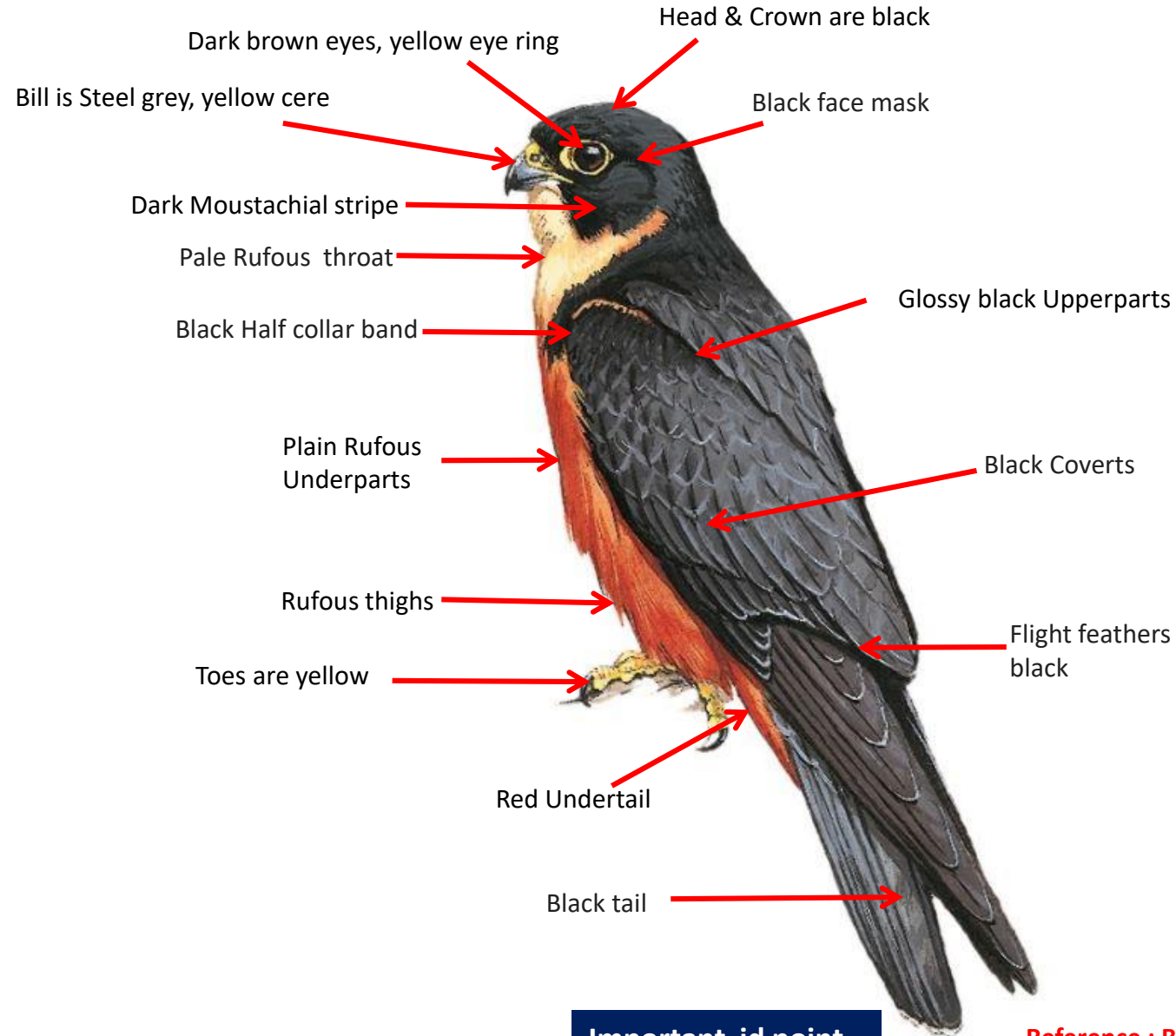
## Eurasian Hobby identification Tips

Eurasian Hobby : *Falco Subbuteo* : Breeds in Himalayas; Widespread winter visitor in India

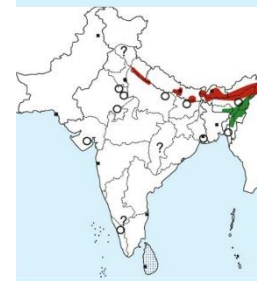


# Oriental Hobby identification Tips

**Oriental Hobby : *Falco severus* : Resident of Himalayas & North East India**



## Distribution



**Important id point**

**Both Sexes similar**

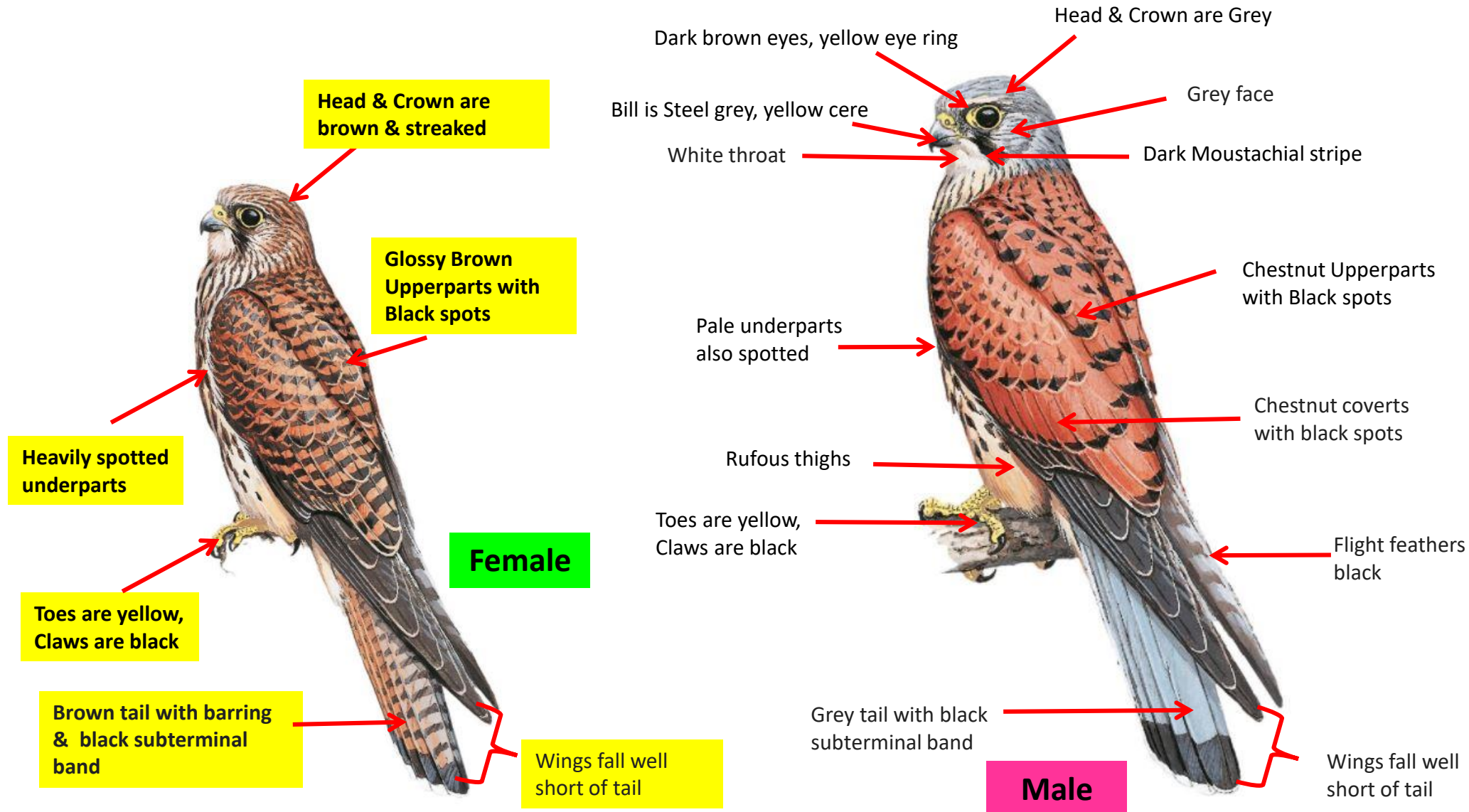
**Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)**

**KESTRAL**



# Common Kestrel identification Tips

Common Kestrel : *Falco tinnunculus* : Resident in Himalayas & Western Ghats ; Widespread Winter Visitor in India



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Important id point

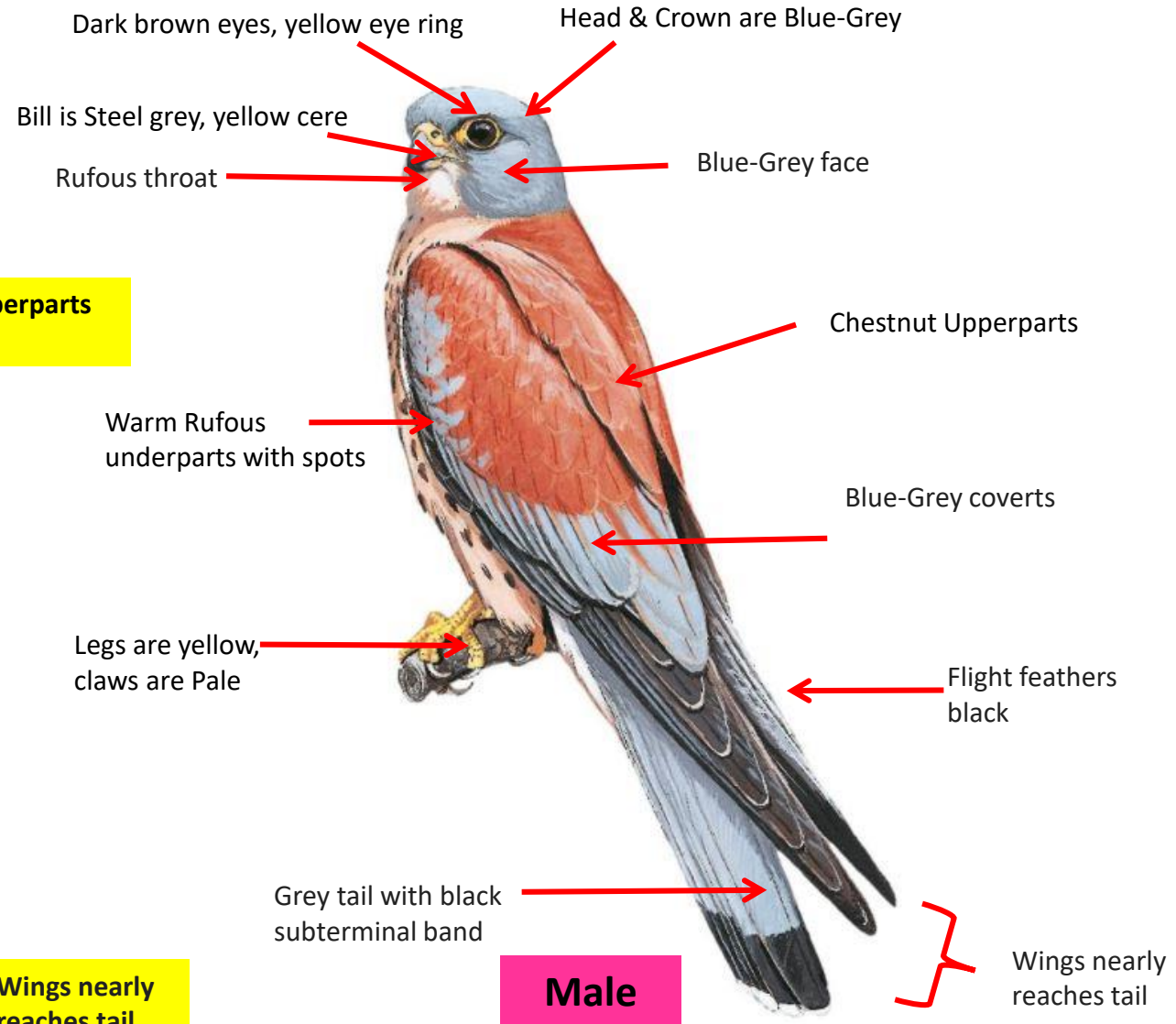
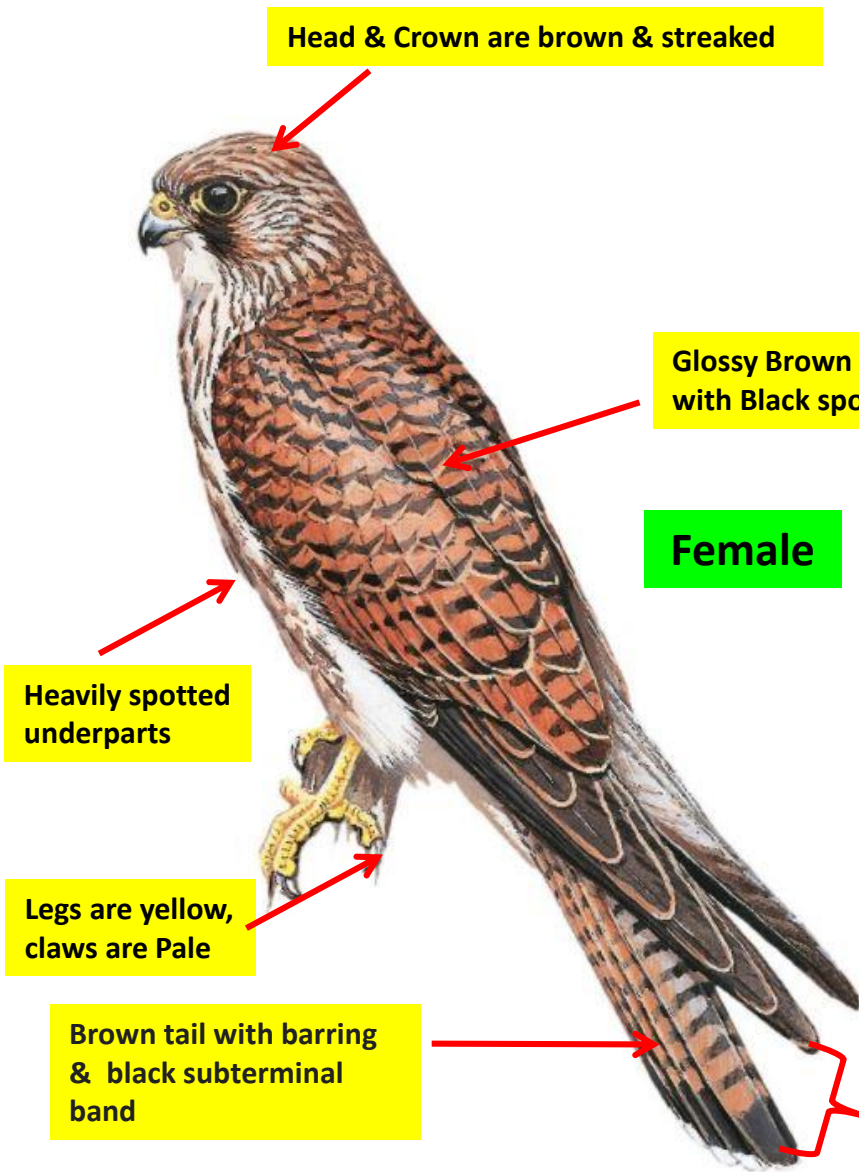
Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
www.HBW.com



# Lesser Kestrel identification Tips

Lesser Kestrel : *Falco naumanni* : Widespread passage migrant in India



Important id point

Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

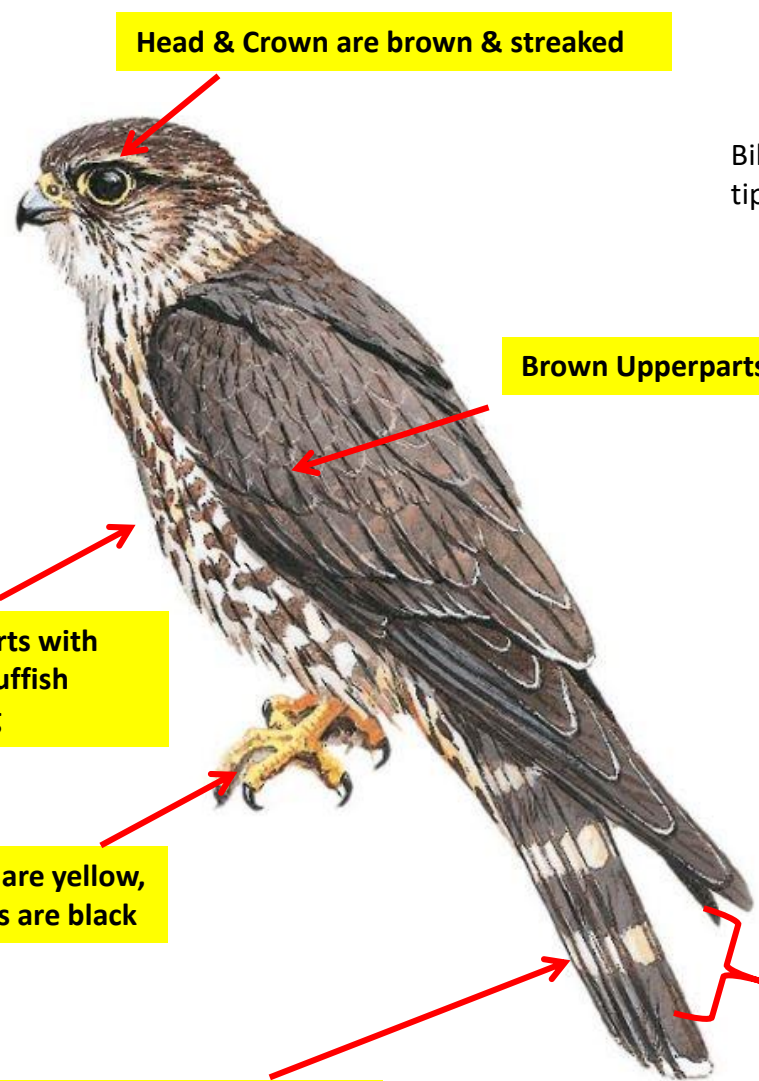
## Distribution





# Merlin identification Tips

Merlin : *Falco columbarius* : Winter visitor to North India



Head & Crown are brown & streaked

Brown Upperparts

Underparts with Heavy buffish streaking

Legs are yellow, claws are black

Brown tail with strong barring

**Female**

Dark brown eyes, yellow eye ring

Bill is Steel grey , black tip, yellow cere

White throat

Pale Rufous orange streaked underparts

Legs are yellow, claws are black

Grey tail with black subterminal band

Wings fall well short of tail

Head & Crown are Blue-Grey

Rufous orange nape

Pale Blue Grey Upperparts

Pale Blue-Grey coverts

Flight feathers black

Wings fall well short of tail

**Male**

Important id point

Difference from Male

Reference : Birds of Indian Subcontinent  
Inskipp and Grimmett  
[www.HBW.com](http://www.HBW.com)

**Distribution**

