

Swifts, Swallows & Martins

Which is Which?

Here's how to tell them apart!

Edward Mayer - Swift Conservation



Sand Martin

Coffee coloured

Creamy tummy

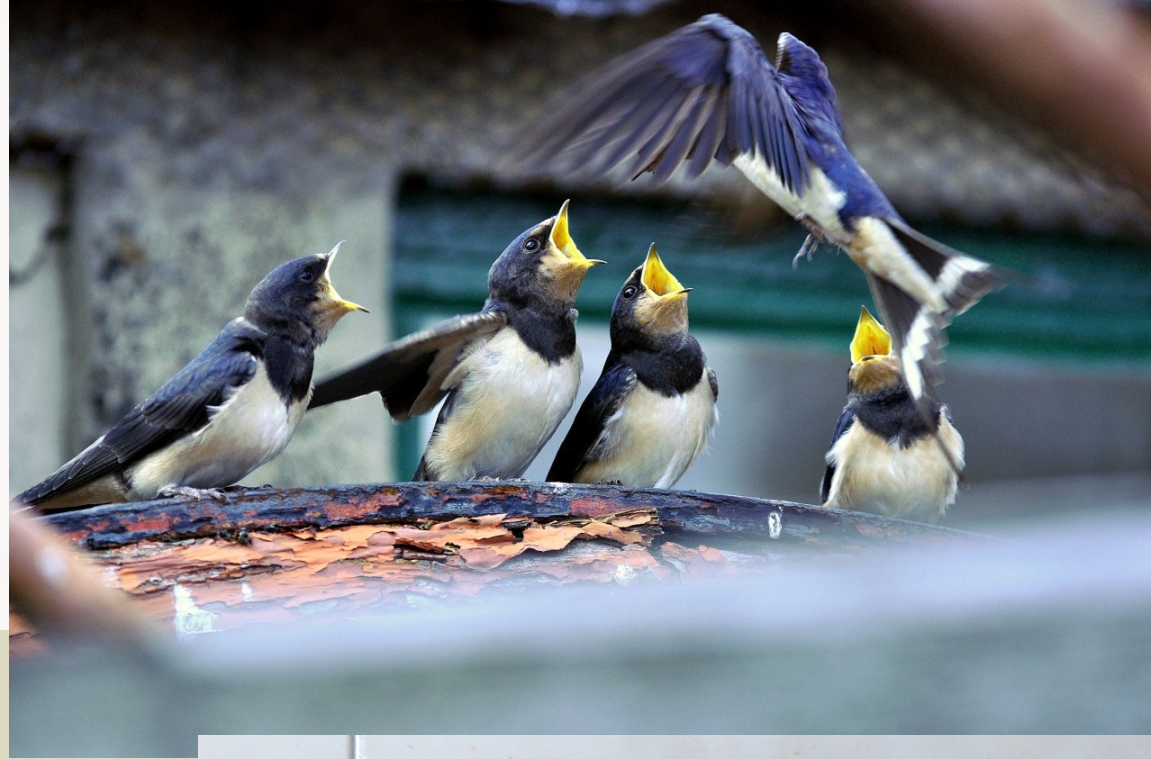
Brown breast band

First to arrive in Spring

Harsh buzzing, rattling call

Burrows nest holes into sandy banks





Swallow

Red throat, creamy tummy
Long tail fork & streamers
Makes a long twittering song
Gleaming blue plumage
Builds a mud & straw nest *inside*
sheds, car ports, stables & barns





House Martin

White rump & tummy

Makes a clicking “click-click” call

Blue-black plumage

Builds a mud nest under eaves or gables



Swift

Very dark, dark brown to black

High pitched, screaming calls

Pale chin – can be invisible or look pale

Very fast group acrobatic dashing flight

Makes nests *inside* eaves and gables

Arrives late April/May, leaves end July/August





For lots more information please contact
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