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Birdwatching Basics

Today on Gardening in a Minute: birdwatching basics.

Gardening provides a wonderful opportunity to enjoy nature. And you may find yourself wondering about all the birds that you see.

Advanced birdwatchers, or birders, can quickly process a lot of information about colors, songs, and shapes to identify the more than 900 species of birds found in the United States.

But to the beginning birder, it can be frustrating to try and identify even common species.

To recognize birds, illustrated field guides or smart phone applications are a must. Binoculars also help you see details that differentiate species.

It takes practice to develop strong observational skills, so don't give up if you can't identify species right away. The more you watch birds, the more you'll notice -- and appreciate about--these spectacular creatures!

For more information about birdwatching, contact your county extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

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