American Ornithological Union: Bird Species Alpha Codes

Code	Species	Code	Species
AMCR	American Crow	EATO	Eastern Towhee
AMGO	American Goldfinch	EAWP	Eastern Wood-pewee
AMKE	American Kestrel	EUST	European Starling
AMRE	American Redstart	FICR	Fish Crow
AMRO	American Robin	FISP	Field Sparrow
BAEA	Bald Eagle	GBHE	Great Blue Heron
BAOR	Baltimore Oriole	GCFL	Great Crested Flycatcher
BARS*	Barn Swallow	GHOW	Great Horned Owl
BAWW	Black-and-white Warbler	GRCA	Gray Catbird
BADO*	Barred Owl	GREG	Great Egret
BGGN	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	GRSP	Grasshopper Sparrow
BHCO	Brown-headed Cowbird	GWWA	Golden-winged Warbler
BLGR	Blue Grosbeak	HAWO	Hairy Woodpecker
BLJA	Blue Jay	HESP	Henslow's Sparrow
BLPW	Blackpoll Warbler	HETH	Hermit Thrush
BLVU	Black Vulture	HOFI	House Finch
BANO*	Barn Owl	HOSP	House Sparrow
BOBO	Bobolink	HOWA	Hooded Warber
BRTH	Brown Thrasher	HOWR	House Wren
BTNW*	Black-throated Green Warbler	INBU	Indigo Bunting
BWHA	Broad-winged Hawk	KILL	Killdeer
BWWA	Blue-winged Warbler	LOSH	Loggerhead Shrike
CACH	Carolina Chickadee	LOWA	Louisiana Waterthrush
CANG*	Canada Goose	MALL	Mallard
CARW	Carolina Wren	MAWA	Magnolia Warbler
CEDW*	Cedar Waxwing	MERL	Merlin
CERW*	Cerulean Warbler	MODO	Mourning Dove
CHSP	Chipping Sparrow	NOBO	Northern Bobwhite
CHSW	Chimney Swift	NOCA	Northern Cardinal
COGR	Common Grackle	NOMO	Northern Mockingbird
COHA	Cooper's Hawk	NOPA	Northern Parula
CORA	Common Raven	NOWA	Northern Waterthrush
COYE	Common Yellowthroat	NRWS	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
CSWA	Chestnut-sided Warbler	OCWA	Orange-crowned Warbler
DICK	Dickcissel	OROR	Orchard Oriole
DOWO	Downy Woodpecker	OSPR	Osprey
EABL	Eastern Bluebird	OVEN	Ovenbird
EAKI	Eastern Kingbird	PAWA	Palm Warbler
EAME	Eastern Meadowlark	PIWA	Pine Warbler
EAPH	Eastern Phoebe	PIWO	Pileated Woodpecker

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PRAW*	Prairie Warbler	SSHA	Sharp-shinned Hawk
PUFI	Purple Finch	SUTA	Summer Tanager
RBGR	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	TRES*	Tree Swallow
RBWO	Red-bellied Woodpecker	TUTI	Tufted Titmouse
RCKI	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	TUVU	Turkey Vulture
REVI	Red-eyed Vireo	UNIN	Unknown
RHWO	Red-headed Woodpecker	VEER	Veery
RNEP*	Ring-necked Pheasant	VESP	Vesper Sparrow
ROPI	Rock Pigeon	WAVI	Warbling Vireo
RSHA	Red-shouldered Hawk	WBNU	White-breasted Nuthatch
RTHA	Red-tailed Hawk	WEVI	White-eyed Vireo
RTHU	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	WTSP	White-throated Sparrow
RUGR	Ruffed Grouse	YBCH	Yellow-breasted Chat
RWBL	Red-winged Blackbird	YBCU	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
SAVS*	Savannah Sparrow	YBSA	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
SCTA	Scarlet Tanager	YEWA	Yellow Warbler
SNEG	Snowy Egret	YRWA	Yellow-rumped Warbler
SOSP	Song Sparrow		

* Denotes alpha code rule exceptions

Alpha Code Rules

Single-word names:	If name is longer than four letters, the alpha code is the first four letters of the name.	Ex. Bobolink = BOBO
Two-word names:	If there are two words in the name, the alpha code is the first two letters of each word.	Ex. Common Yellowthroat = COYE
Three-words with a hyphenated pair:	If the hyphen is in the **first part**, the alpha code is the first letter from each hyphenated word and the first two letters from the last word.	Ex. Yellow-billed Cuckoo = YBCU
	If the hyphen is in the **last part**, the alpha code is the first two letters from the first word and the first letter from each hyphenated word.	Ex. Eastern Wood-pewee = EAWP
Names with three separate words:	If there are three separate words, the alpha code is the first letter from the first two words and then two letters from the last word.	Ex. Great Blue Heron = GBHE
Names with four words:	If the name has four words, the alpha code is the first letter of each word.	Ex. Northern Rough-winged Swallow = NRWS