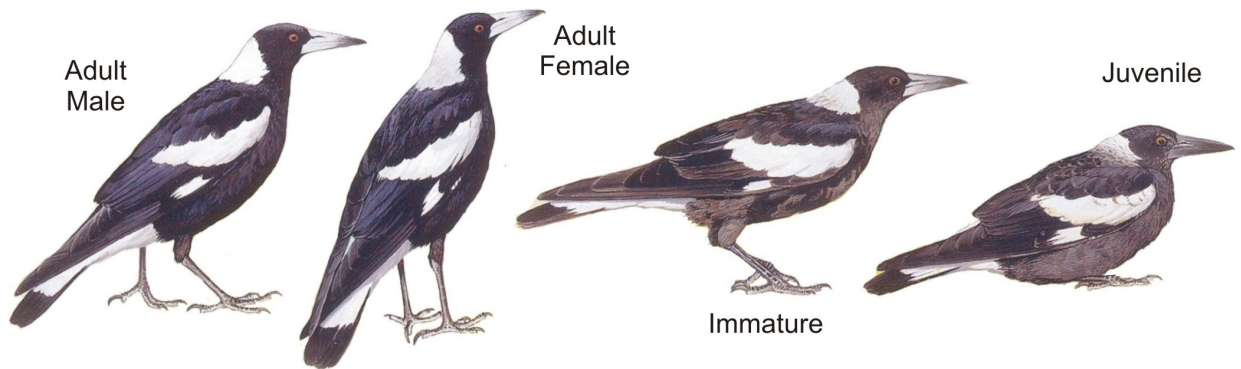
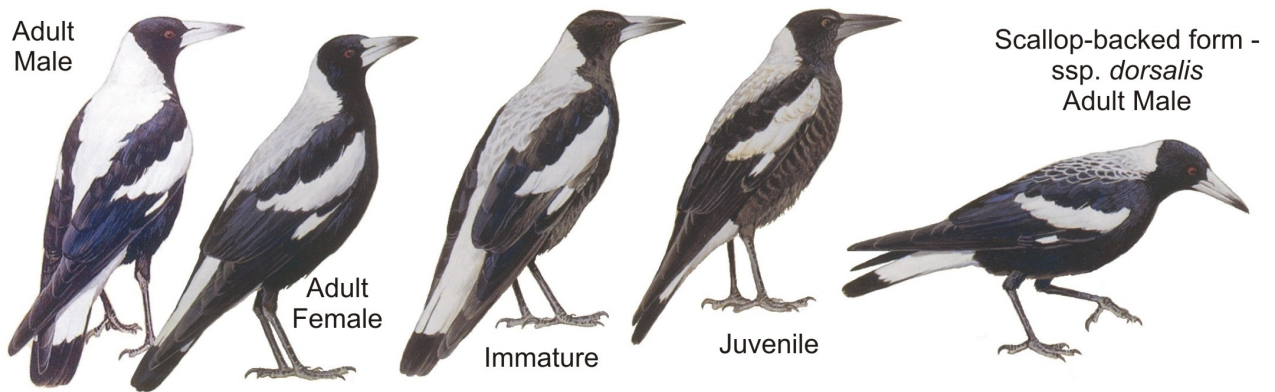


**Australian Magpie** *Gymnorhina tibicen* Species No.: 705 Band size: 09 (08)  
**(1 of 2)**



Black-backed forms - ssp. *tibicen*, *terraereginae*, *longirostris*, *eylandtensis*



White-backed forms - ssp *tyrannica*, *telonocua*, *hypoleuca*

**Status:**

In Australia eight subspecies are presently recognised and another occurs in Papua-New Guinea. This is further complicated by hybridisation between subspecies.

**Morphometrics:**

Measurement for four of the subspecies are provided below.

	<b>Nominate <i>G.t. tibicen</i></b> (NSW e. of Great Dividing Range)		<b>ssp. <i>G.t. terraereginae</i></b> (Qld, NSW w. of Divide, n.w. Vic, n-e. SA)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	249 – 295 mm	250 – 270 mm	232 – 277 mm	221 -255 mm
Tail:	124 – 153 mm	135 – 152 mm	111 – 148 mm	116 – 145 mm
Bill:	51.0 – 56.7 mm	48.2 – 53.5 mm	49.4 – 61.5 mm	43.9 – 55.9 mm
Tarsus:	52.5 – 61.7 mm	52.0 – 62.4 mm	46.5 – 58.6 mm	46.1 – 57.7 mm
Weight:	284 – 305 g	305 – 350 g	212 – 335 g	219 – 300 g

	<b>ssp. <i>G.t. tyrannica</i></b> (southern Vic., s-e SA)		<b>ssp. <i>G.t. dorsalis</i></b> (s-w. WA)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	251 – 290 mm	250 – 282 mm	231 – 275 mm	239 – 266 mm
Tail:	138 – 157 mm	124 – 161 mm	128 – 147 mm	122 – 152 mm
Bill:	50.7 – 60.8 mm	48.9 – 58.8 mm	56.2 – 64.7 mm	48.5 – 63.4 mm
Tarsus:	54.2 – 63.6 mm	51.4 – 63.6 mm	51.7 – 59.3 mm	45.4 – 60.1 m
Weight:	250 – 410 g	237 – 372 g	290 – 360 g	265 – 350 g

## Australian Magpie (2 of 2)

### Ageing:

See illustrations above, but the plumage development described below is similar for all subspecies:

	Adult (3+)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Immature (2)	1 <sup>st</sup> Immature (1)	Juvenile (J)
Bill:	pale bluish or bluish-white with black distal third;	dark greyish fading to be similar to adult by end of second year;	blackish to dark greyish becoming paler from base;	dark grey with pinkish tibia;
Gape:	black;	grey to grey-black;	grey-pink to grey;	pink or pinkish-grey;
Eye:	brown;	chocolate brown;	chocolate brown	dark brown or brown
Crown, nape & sides of head:	glossy black with faint bluish tinge when seen in good light;	blackish-brown, slightly glossy on top;	blackish-brown with indistinct fine light brown or buffy flecking;	blackish brown with diffuse, narrow brown or light greyish-brown tips to feathers forming pale scalloping;
Hindneck & sides of neck:	male – white; female – grey wash on white;	similar to adult female;	mottled off-white;	off-white with yellow-brown tinge & diffuse greyish mottling;
Throat, breast, belly & flanks:	glossy black with faint bluish tinge in good light;	blackish-brown to dull black;	dark brown or blackish-brown, or patchy mixture of both;	dark brown with buff flecking or mottling faint on breast, bolder on belly & thighs;
Wing:	black with white wing bar;	dull black with white wing bar;	dark brown with light brown or light grey-brown fringes, wing bar off-white;	dark brown with buff leading edges, wing bar white with narrow yellow-brown fringes;

### Sexing :

Adult females are readily identified by grey wash on the hindneck and also on the back in the white-backed forms;  
Only females incubate.