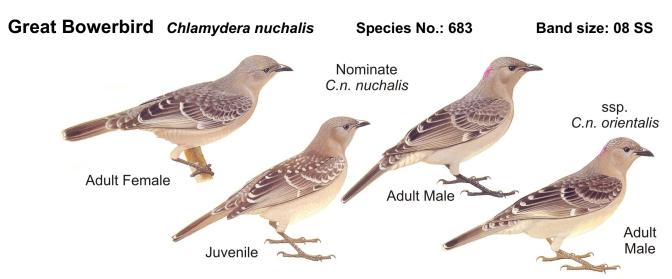
Australian Bird Study Association Inc. - Bird in the Hand (Second Edition), published on www.absa.asn.au - Revised April 2020



## Morphometrics:

Two subsp	ecies with measureme	nts as follows:		
	Nominate C.n. nuchalis		ssp. C.n. orientalis	
	(n. WA, NT & n. Qld except n-e)		(Cape York & n-e Qld s. to Mackay)	
	Adult Male	Adult Female	Adult Male	Adult Female
THL:	65.6 – 71.8 mm	64.2 – 69.7 mm	65.4 – 71.6 mm	62.9 – 67.6 mm
Bill:	33.9 – 40.8 mm	32.2 – 41.5 mm	35.0 – 41.3 mm	30.9 – 38.1 mm
Wing:	170 – 193 mm	155 – 191 mm	163 – 181 mm	152 – 174 mm
Tail:	130 – 157 mm	127 – 160 mm	121 – 143 mm	122 – 147 mm
Tarsus:	45.6 – 54.6 mm	42.3 – 50.5 mm	45.4 – 49.2 mm	39.9 – 47.4 mm
Weight:	166.4 – 240.0 g	164 – 236 g	170 – 250 g	160 – 207 g

## Ageing:

Adult (2+)

Forehead, crown,	light brownish-grey or light grey-
nape & hindneck:	brown, darker on forehead and
	upper lores, dark brown mottling
	on upper forehead & crown;
Nuchal crest:	pink-mauve -prominent in males,
	Small or absent in females;
Upperparts:	boldly mottled dark brown and
	coarsely scalloped pale grey or
	grey-brown;
Underparts:	mostly uniform light greyish-brown
	grading to paler cream in centre
	of belly, females have faint diffuse
	light grey-brown or brown barring;

Juvenile
light greyish-brown with fine off-white
flecking & streaking;

## absent;

dark brown with irregular off-white spots and streaks;

entirely off-white with diffuse brown barring;

Juveniles and first immatures do not have a nuchal crest.

Post-juvenile moult results in immature plumage with all juvenile remiges and rectrices retained; Probably attain adult plumage in complete first immature post-breeding moult, at about one year of age; Thus adults should be aged (2+);

It is not known at what age females breed or when males first build and maintain a bower in which to successfully display and attract females. However, studies of other bowerbird species have demonstrated that display and bower construction are learned skills, so it is probable that males do not master display and construction skills until they are four to six years old. So known breeding males should be aged (4+)

## Sexing:

Adults show slight differences in size and plumage; Incubation by female only.