

Little Raven *Corvus mellori*

Species No.: 954

Band size: 10



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	321 – 370 mm	319 – 359 mm
Tail:	172 – 229 mm	162 – 218 mm
Bill (tip to skull):	49.7 – 64.7 mm	48.4 – 61.0 mm
Weight:	421 – 600 g	484 – 650 g

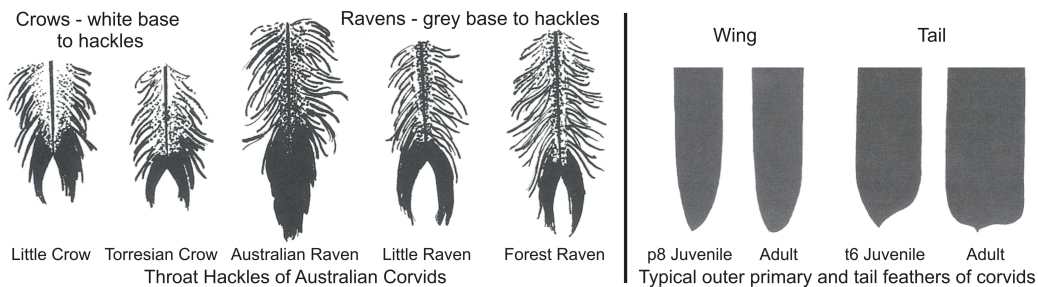
Ageing:

	Adult (3+)	2 nd Immatures (2)	1 st Immature (1) & Juvenile
Bill:	black or grey-black;	grey- black;	grey-black, initially with pinkish base to lower mandible;
Gape:	black;	black;	dull pinkish;
Palate:	black;	black with some pink;	pinkish;
Interramal skin:	black;	tinge of pink;	pink;
Iris:	white, with light blue inner ring;	white with hazel edge;	greyish-blue changing to dark brown;
Remiges & rectrices:	blackish with glossy greenish sheen;	as for adult;	blackish-brown;

Juveniles undergo a partial moult to first immature plumage soon after fledging; First Immatures retain all or most juvenile remiges, greater primary coverts, alula and rectrices. Note that outer primaries and tail feathers differ in shape from adults – see illustration below; First immatures commence moult to second immature plumage, which is indistinguishable from adult plumage, at approximately one year old; Second immatures, identified by subtle differences in bare parts, attain full adult colouring in a complete moult commencing at the end of their second year. Thus adults aged (3+);

Sexing:

There is no plumage dimorphism, though adult males average larger than adult females; Incubation is by the female only.



Similar species: Other Australian corvids – see illustrations of hackles above.