

Western Shrike-tit *Falcunculus leucogaster*

Species No.: 418 Band size: 03 AY



Adult Male

Adult Female

Status:

In 2019 the Crested Shrike-tit was split into three species by the Birdlife Australia Working List v3. Separate field data sheets have therefore been compiled for the three species – Eastern Shrike-tit *F. frontatus*, Western Shrike-tit *F. leucogaster* and Northern Shrike-tit *F. whitei*.

Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Bill:	16.3 – 20.3 mm	16.1 – 17.9 mm
Wing:	84 – 96 mm	81 – 90 mm
Tail:	76 – 83 mm	70 – 79 mm
Tarsus:	19.4 – 21.7 mm	18.9 – 20.6 mm
Weight:	No data	

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Immature (2-) or (1)	Juvenile (J)
Bill:	black;	black with white tip and grey upper edge;	mostly grey with pale-grey cutting edge;
Gape:	black;	changes from yellow to cream;	orange-buff;
Iris:	dark red-brown, or reddish-brown;	brown, developing red-brown inner ring;	black-brown;
Legs & feet:	grey or blue-grey	blue;	grey;

Upperparts of juveniles are much browner and underparts paler than adults; Juvenile remiges, rectrices and usually the dark greyish-brown alula, are retained in immature plumage; Immatures can also be separated from adults by moult contrast in wings; Immatures commence moult to full adult plumage when approximately one year old; Thus immatures are aged (2-) or (1) depending on time of year and wear of feathers and adults will be aged (2+).

Sexing :

Adults and first immatures are easily sexed by plumage (see above); Males have a black chin and throat whereas females have a grey chin and olive throat.