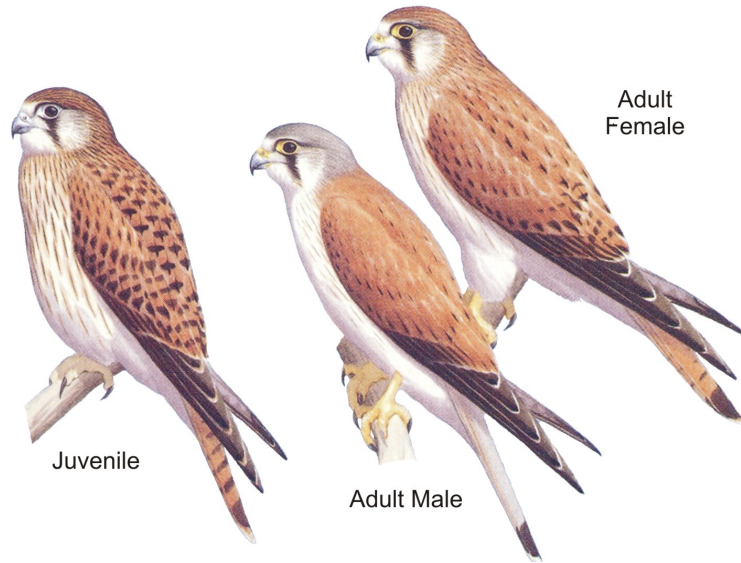


Nankeen Kestrel *Falco cenchroides* **Species Code: 282** **Band: [E(SS)]**



Morphometrics:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Wing:	235 – 260 mm	248 – 273 mm
8 th Primary:	172 – 198 mm	173 – 208 mm
Wing Span:	620 – 772 mm	748 – 790 mm
Tail:	146 – 168 mm	151 – 176 mm
Bill (cere):	12.6 – 15.3 mm	13.0 – 16.2 mm
Tarsus:	33.1 – 38.0 mm	32.0 – 38.1 mm
Weight:	121 – 195 g	115 – 255 g

Ageing:

	Adult (2+)	Juvenile
Bill:	black, grading to pale grey or blue-grey at base;	dark grey or grey-black with small grey base;
Orbital skin & cere:	yellow, dull yellow, or greenish- yellow;	pale grey with greenish or yellow tinge;
Crown, rump & tail:	may or may not have grey feathers;	no grey feathers;
Legs & feet:	yellow to orange-yellow;	pale-yellow;
Breast & belly:	white with fine brown streaking;	white with broad, dense streaking
Upperparts:	rufous-brown feathers with, or without, subterminal black-brown spots;	rufous-brown with prominent, large dark diamond-shaped spots;
Tail:	grey or rufous (see below for sexing);	rufous-brown with prominent dark bars.

Plumage traits are variable and not well understood beyond juvenile, but adults are aged (2+); Second year (immature) males have a grey rump.

Sexing:

Females average slightly larger than males. but there is considerable overlap in most measurements, so morphometrics alone will not always sex a bird; Plumage characteristics, in combination with morphometrics, will accurately sex most adult birds as follows:

	Adult Male	Adult Female
Crown & rump:	normally uniform grey, but feathers may have narrow rufous fringes;	mostly rufous-brown with thin blackish feather shafts and occasionally feathers have greyish centres;
Tail:	grey with black subterminal band and whitish tip, may have faint discontinuous dark bars, tail feathers may have thin light rufous edges;	light rufous-brown with black subterminal band and whitish to light brown tip, usually with incomplete black-brown bars;
Breast & belly:	white with light rufous tinge or buff-white;	whitish with rufous–brown wash and black streaks.

Both sexes incubate.

