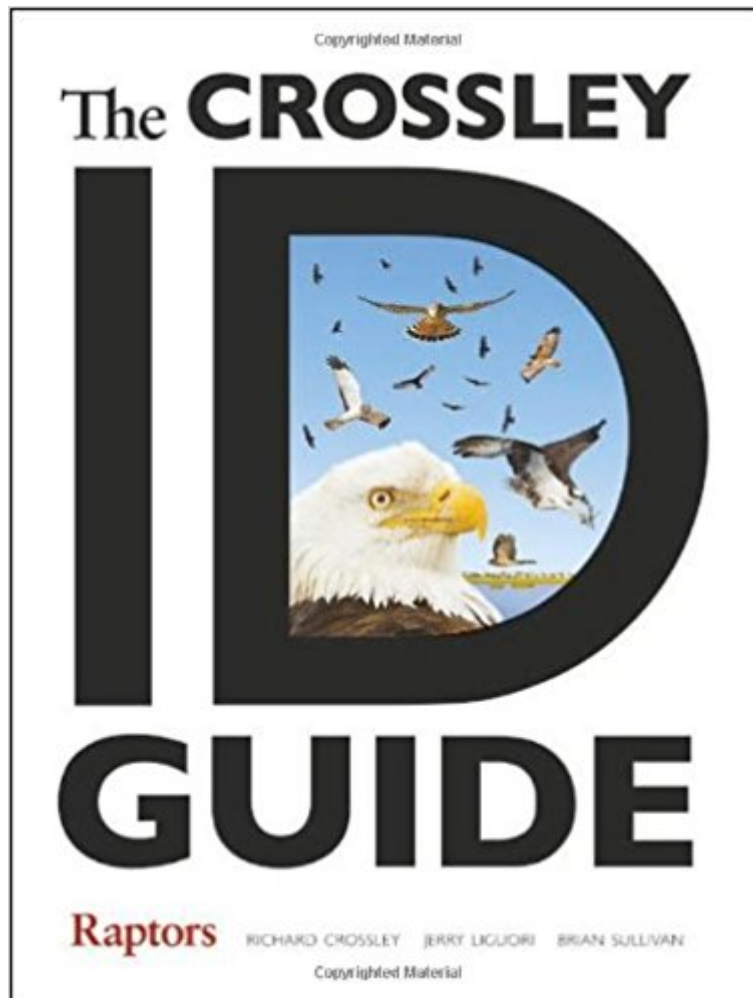




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The Crossley ID Guide: Raptors (The Crossley ID Guides)



Synopsis

Part of the revolutionary Crossley ID Guide series, this is the first raptor guide with lifelike scenes composed from multiple photographs--scenes that allow you to identify raptors just as the experts do. Experienced birders use the most easily observed and consistent characteristics--size, shape, behavior, probability, and general color patterns. The book's 101 scenes--including thirty-five double-page layouts--provide a complete picture of how these features are all related. Even the effects of lighting and other real-world conditions are illustrated and explained. Detailed and succinct accounts from two of North America's foremost raptor experts, Jerry Liguori and Brian Sullivan, stress the key identification features. This complete picture allows everyone from beginner to expert to understand and enjoy what he or she sees in the field. The mystique of bird identification is eliminated, allowing even novice birders to identify raptors quickly and simply. Comprehensive and authoritative, the book covers all thirty-four of North America's diurnal raptor species (all species except owls). Each species is featured in stunning color plates that show males and females, in a full spectrum of ages and color variants, depicted near and far, in flight and at rest, and from multiple angles, all caught in their typical habitats. There are also comparative, multispecies scenes and mystery photographs that allow readers to test their identification skills, along with answers and full explanations in the back of the book. In addition, the book features an introduction, and thirty-four color maps accompany the plates. Whether you are a novice or an expert, this one-of-a-kind guide will show you an entirely new way to look at these spectacular birds. The most complete guide to North American raptors, written by some of the foremost experts. The first raptor guide using Richard Crossley's acclaimed, innovative composite images that show birds as they actually appear in the field. 101 stunning color plates--including thirty-five double-page layouts--composed from thousands of photographs. Comparative, multispecies plates and photos of mystery species that allow readers to test their growing identification skills. Complete with introduction, 34 color maps, and detailed species accounts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I've been waiting for this book for a year now. When I saw some of the sample pages on Richard's facebook page and web site I was practically salivating. And many of the pages are indeed, magnificent. But overall I'm disappointed and I think he has missed the mark with this one. In most cases it is not the pictures that I have a problem with but the way they are used, organized and labeled. In some cases labels aren't necessary; but in many cases they are essential, and leaving them unlabeled makes them pretty much useless or irrelevant. I love Richard's technique of showing birds in all aspects, but I think some organization according to age, sex, race, etc. would make them much more meaningful. To really tell the difference between two birds I want to see them in more or less the same "pose". Instead they are just randomly plastered on the pages. But what I have the most problem with is that almost half the book has been made into an ID quiz, where you have to look at numbered pictures on a page and then go to another page at the back of the book to find the correct answers. First, I really don't want that at all, second it is unreasonably hard to go back and forth hundreds or maybe thousands of times to find the answer. I would much rather just have more pictures on the ID pages and more of those pages. But if the quiz format is necessary, put the answers at the bottom of the page the pictures are on. I promise I won't cheat. As it is, all those pictures (half the pictures in the book) are just useless for ID unless you write the answers next to the picture. It's the same thing as buying a book of crossword puzzles and having to go to the back of the book for the answers.

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