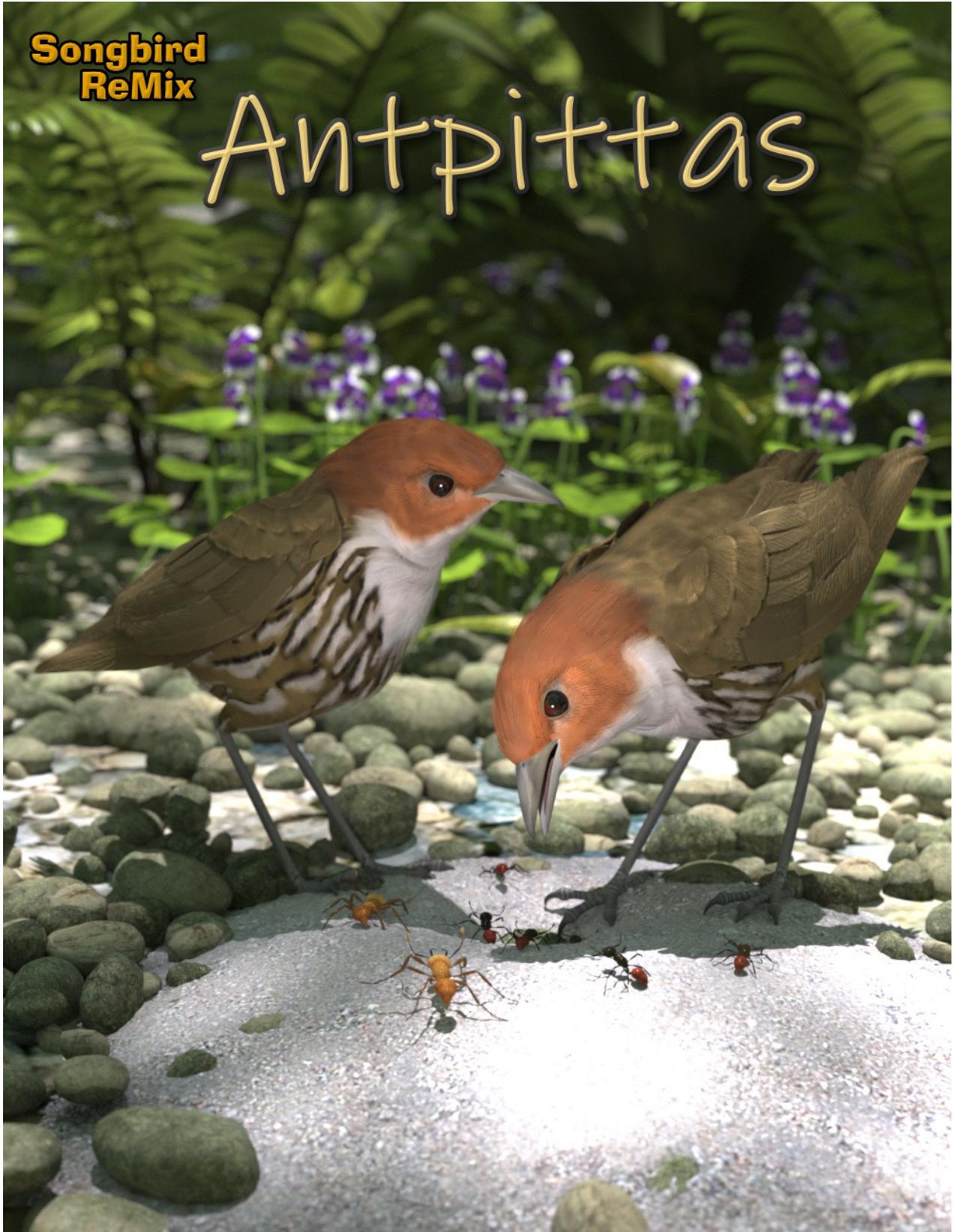


**Songbird  
ReMix**

# Antpittas



**Avian Models for 3D Applications**  
Characters and Procedural Maps by Ken Gilliland

# Songbird ReMix

## Antpittas of the World

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# Songbird ReMix

## Antpittas of the World

### Introduction

Antpittas are found in the family, Grallariidae, which is a family of smallish passerine birds of subtropical and tropical Central and South America. Antpittas have been described as a 'plump ball mounted on sticks'. They are between 4-8 inches (10-20 cm) long, with exceptionally long legs and a barely noticeable tail which lends to its iconic upright posture. They are related to the antbirds and gnateaters.

These are forest birds that almost always feed at or near the ground. Many are specialists in following army ants which causes all other insects to scatter, providing a feast for those willing to follow. They are secretive birds; often remaining still for long periods of time, in order to catch their prey. Some antpittas are so reclusive that they have never been photographed in the wild.

Included are many of the most common, most colorful and rare (or endangered) antpittas. From the flashy Black-crowned Antpitta to the common Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, this set perfect for your subtropical renders, or simply adding some help in ant control. As with all Songbird ReMix sets, it includes a large arsenal of morphs and poses to achieve life-like bird behavior. The set comes in both Poser and DAZ Studio versions and supports Firefly, Superfly and Iray render engines.

### Overview and Use

The set is located within the **Animals : Songbird ReMix** folder. Here is where you will find a number of folders, such as **Bird Library**, **Manuals** and **Resources**. Let's look at what is contained in these folders:

- **Bird Library:** This folder holds the actual species and poses for the "premade" birds. Birds are placed into a "type" folder (such as "Birds of Prey (Order Falconiformes)" which for example would hold falcons, hawks and eagles). The birds for this set can be found in the following folder(s):
  - **Perching Birds (Order Passeriformes)**
    - [Antbirds, Antpittas & their Allies](#)
- **Manuals:** Contains a link to the online manual for the set.
- **Props:** Contains any props that might be included in the set
- **Resources:** Items in this folder are for creating and customizing your birds
  - **Bird Base Models:** This folder has the blank, untextured model(s) used in this set. These models are primarily for users who wish to experiment with poses or customize their own species of bird. When using physical renderers such as Iray and Superfly, SubD should be turned to at least "3". For DAZ Studios 3Delight renders, the SubD must be turned from the "High Resolution" setting to the



## Physical-based Rendering

**Iray** and **Superfly** requires more CPU and memory horsepower than the legacy renderers because of ray-trace bounces and higher resolution meshes needed for displacement. Poser's **Superfly** renderer will require that the "Min Transparent Bounces" be set to **at least 16** and that the "Max Transparent Bounces" be set to **at least 32** in render settings. Superfly renders may show artifacts in the head area. This is a known Poser issue and may be addressed in the future. Increasing the SubD may minimize this issue.

## Posing & Shaping Considerations

This volume has various species, so when using generic poses not every pose will work perfectly with every bird. You may find that some minor alteration on the stock poses may be warranted.

Here are some of the most common alterations you may need to make:

- Birds will not be flat on the zero plane due to leg size and overall scale.
- Because of the numerous beak shapes, closing the beak may range from 0.5 to 1. Usually 0.8 is about right.
- **Raise Upper Beak** (*in Action Controls*): This morph is a "one size fits all" control. Because of the variety of beak shapes. It may not work with all birds.

### IK Concerns

Some poses may go askew when IK is turned on. By default, Poser's IK feature is turned off when loading a bird. To turn it on, select the "Figure" category from the main tool bar and "Use Inverse Kinematics" from the submenu.

By default, DAZ Studio's IK feature is turned on when loading a bird. This will cause the thigh and shin rotations change when the character is moved. The **CTRL K** keypress will turn IK on and off in DAZ Studio. IK doesn't work that well in Studio, so I suggest selecting the character in the **Scene tab** and simply deleting the two IK body parts to remove IK.

## Where to find your birds and poses

Type Folder	For what species?
<b>Perching Birds (Order Passeriformes)</b> Antbirds, Antpittas & their Allies	All Antpittas

# Songbird ReMix

## Antpittas of the World

### Field Guide

*Black-crowned Antpitta*

*Rufous-crowned Antpitta*

*Giant Antpitta*

*Great Antpitta*

*Variiegated Antpitta*

*Scaled Antpitta*

*Chestnut-crowned Antpitta*

*Jocotoco Antpitta*

*Bolivian Antpitta*

*Speckle-breasted Antpitta*

*Alta Floresta Antpitta*

*Streak-chested Antpitta*

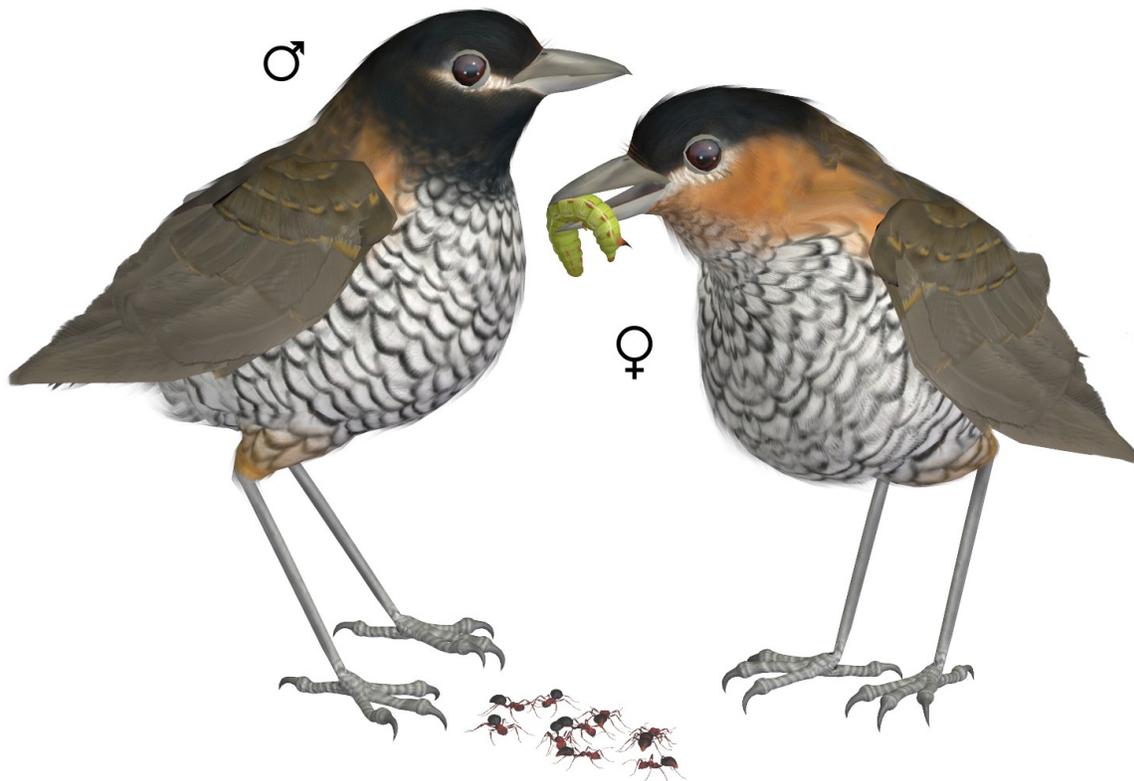
*Thrush-like Antpitta*

**Common Name:** Black-crowned Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Pittasoma michleri*

**Size:** 7 inches (18 cm)

**Habitat:** North and South America. It is restricted to a narrow elevational belt in the Caribbean foothills from northeastern Costa Rica south to northwestern Colombia.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. Declines are suspected on the basis of habitat destruction and human incursion into forest habitats.



**Diet:** It consumes a variety of invertebrates (insects, scorpions, *Amblypigids*, spiders), and small vertebrates such as frogs and small reptiles.

It moves along the forest floor by hopping. They do not join mixed flocks but regularly forage at swarms of army ants, which often are attended by other bird species as well. On these occasions, antpittas dominate most other bird species at the ant swarm.

**Breeding:** Sexes are dimorphic. The adult male has a crown and nape that are black. The lores are white mixed with chestnut. The sides of the head are chestnut. The back, rump, and upper tail coverts are olive brown. The feathers of the back are edged with black, producing indistinct streaks. The wings are chestnut brown, wing coverts with narrow spots of white or buff, bordered with black. Tertiaries with a terminal spot of buff. Outer webs of primaries cinnamon. The chin and throat are black, mixed with narrow shaft streaks or spots of white and chestnut. The breast and belly are white, heavily barred with black. The flanks are light brown. The under-tail coverts are buff to tawny, feathers with a subterminal circular black line. The female resembles the male but the throat is rufous with black scalloping, and there are less distinct black markings on the under-parts.

There is very little information about the reproduction of this antpitta. One nest encountered in Panama in April was a thin-walled, cup made of fine dark rootlets placed upon several dead leaves in the crown of a small, understory palm approximately one meter above the ground. The nest had two, pinkish-buff eggs with purplish blotches and dense brown spots.

**Cool Facts:** Two subspecies recognized:

- *P. m. zeledoni*. First reported by Ridgway in 1884. It is endemic to Río Sucío, Costa Rica  
It occurs in Costa Rica and in western Panama (Bocas del Toro). This race is darker, more rufous on upper parts than the nominate race. Its sides of the head are black, with only the auriculars brown.
- *P. m. michleri*. First reported by Cassin in 1860. The nominate race is endemic to Río Truando, Colombia. It also occurs in Panama (except extreme west) and extreme northwestern Colombia.

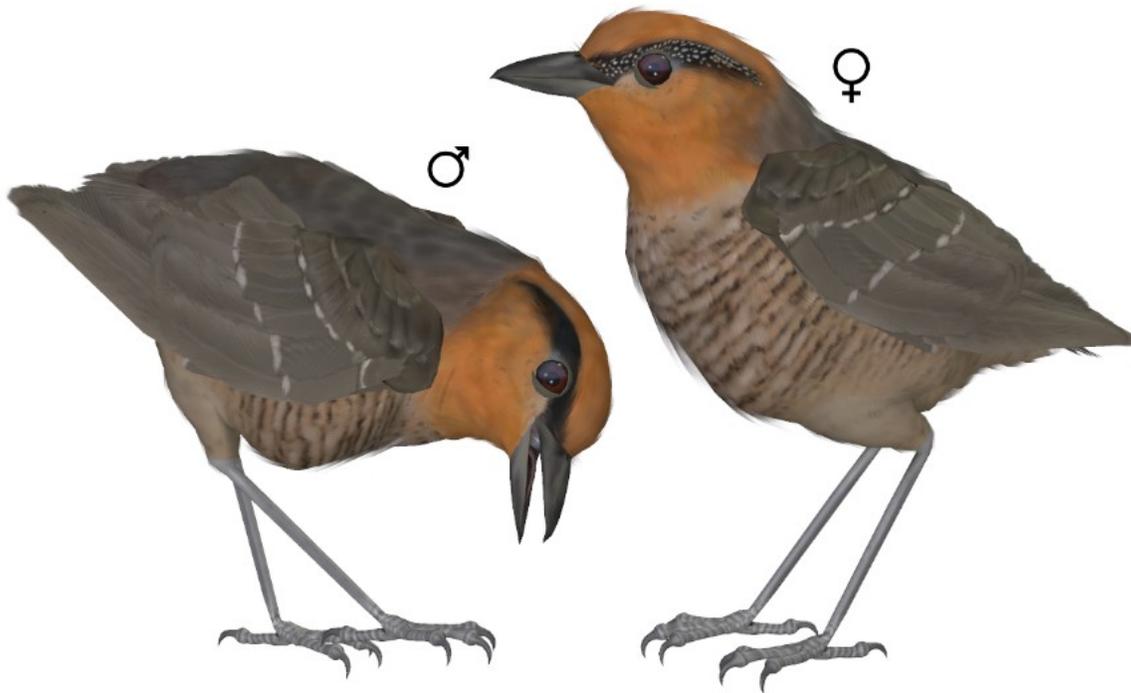
**Common Name:** Rufous-crowned Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Pittasoma rufopileatum*

**Size:** 5.9 inches (15 cm)

**Habitat:** South America. It is a Chocó bioregion endemic, found from northwestern Colombia south to northwestern Ecuador, and always is on or close to the ground in very wet forests below 1100 m.

**Status:** Near Threatened to Vulnerable. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. Unplanned colonization following the completion of roads, and massive logging concessions have cleared or degraded over 40% of original Chocó forests. Currently, habitat loss through logging, human settlement, cattle-grazing, mining and coca and palm cultivation all pose threats.

**Diet:** Insects, spiders and ants.



**Breeding:** Within its relatively small range, there is considerable sexual and racial variation in plumage, with three recognized subspecies. All plumage variations, however, are stunningly attractive and impossible to mistake. The head is largely rufous in two subspecies (the rufous being restricted to the crown in the nominate race), interrupted by a broad, black, tapering eyestripe that reaches onto the nape, while the under-parts are largely pale, but extensively barred in two subspecies. Females have spotted eyestripes. These antpittas

have long legs, an upright posture, and very short tails that may be almost entirely cloaked by their wings.

**Cool Facts:** Rufous-crowned Antpitta is the more southerly ranging of the two species of *Pittasoma*.

There are 3 subspecies:

- *P. r. rosenbergi*. This race is found on the Pacific slope of Colombia in central and southern Chocó.
- *P. r. harterti*. This race is found in southern Colombia in western Nariño (Barbacoas, Guaycana).
- *P. r. rufopileatum*. The nominate race is found in the northwestern Ecuador (Esmeraldas, Pichincha).

**Common Name:** Giant Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria gigantea*

**Size:** 9.5-10.5 inches (24-26.7 cm)

**Habitat:** South America. It is found largely in Ecuador, but also occurs in southernmost Colombia. It is found on both the East and West slopes of the Andes, at elevations between 1200 and 3000 m.

This antpitta inhabits humid and wet primary montane forests. It prefers level ground and swampy areas, but has been seen occasionally on steep slopes.

**Status:** Vulnerable to Endangered. **Global Population:** 600-1,700 mature individuals with a declining population. Habitat loss is a large and continuing threat. In eastern Ecuador, where the species can, occasionally be locally common, there are two Ecological Reserves (Cayambe-Coca and Antisana) and three National Parks (Sumaco-Napo Galeras, Llanganates, and Sangay), covering nearly 60% of the species' range in Ecuador. In Colombia, it occurs in the Puracé National Park and the La Planada Nature Reserve.



**Diet:** Large beetles, grubs, slugs, and giant earthworms.

Giant earthworms are quickly cut into pieces about 8 cm long and gulped down. They are largely terrestrial and forage, hopping along forest floor, often pausing

to peer around and at the ground for long intervals. They frequently pound their heavy beak into the soil, quickly grabbing food items from surface.

**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. It has a plump body, short tail, and long legs. Compared to other antpittas, the bill of Giant Antpitta is especially thick and heavy. The forecrown and lores are deep tawny buff or chestnut, and the crown olivaceous brown, grading into a gray hind crown and nape. The back is olivaceous brown, with the wings and tail browner than the back. The sides of the head and entire underparts are deep rusty buff, barred with broken black bars; the central belly and undertail coverts are deeper colored and unbarred.

They are monogamous. The breeding biology of Giant Antpitta is largely unknown, with the first nest being described only in 2009. The nest was partially obscured by overhanging epiphytes and difficult to detect from most angles.

**Cool Facts:** It is among the largest antpittas. The Giant Antpitta is replaced farther north in the Andes of Venezuela by Great Antpitta (*Grallaria excelsa*).

**Common Name:** Great Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria excelsa*

**Size:** 8.7-11 inches (22.5–28 cm)

**Habitat:** South America. It is a restricted-range species found in the Colombian East Andes, Cordillera de la Costa Central, and Cordillera de Mérida.

It inhabits humid montane forest with a dense understory at 1,460-2,570 m, but particularly above 2,000 m.

**Status:** Near Threatened. **Global Population:** 1,000-2,499 mature individuals with a declining population. The population is suspected to be declining as a consequence of the loss of its habitat through deforestation. Some large tracts of forest remain in the Cordillera de Mérida and Cordillera de la Costa, but



deforestation has been locally severe. Agricultural colonization represents a significant threat in the Sierra de Perijá, Cordillera de Mérida and Cordillera de la Costa, and many areas have already been cleared for cultivation, both commercial and subsistence. Deforestation in the Sierra de Perijá is caused by narcotics cultivation, uncontrolled colonization, cattle-ranching and mineral exploitation.

**Diet:** Worms and ants.

It is highly terrestrial, at least while foraging, hopping and pausing while searching for prey on the ground with the head slightly tilted, then darting quickly forward to grab prey with its heavy bill. After swallowing food, it often bobs up and down several times while puffing out its tail feathers and flicking its wings.

**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. Adults have whitish lores, throat, and eye-ring, but most of the crown is brown, becoming gray on the hind crown and nape. The rest of the upper-parts are olive-brown (contrasting with the gray hind crown). The cheeks and most of underparts are buff, finely barred black, with the buff of the underparts palest, approaching white, just below the throat, forming a crescent.

Nesting takes place during the rainy season in May-June, when one or two eggs are laid. Nests are built 3.8 - 12 m above the ground in trees where dense clusters of aroid plants, epiphytes, and lianas secure them to either a vertical fork or against the trunk itself. They are large, bulky, open-cups made from mosses, rootlets, wet leaves, small stems, detritus, and fern fronds, and lined with a thick mesh of black rootlets and rhizomorphs.

**Cool Facts:** The Great Antpitta forages opportunistically with army ant swarms. Army ants cause all other insects to vacate the area.

**Common Name:** Variegated Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria varia*

**Size:** 8.7-11 inches (22.5–28 cm)

**Habitat:** South America. It occupies two separate regions of South America. In the north it is found in lowland humid forests from the Guianas and lower Amazonian Brazil (north of the Amazon and westward to the upper Rio Negro), westward and northward in Brazil and into adjacent southwestern Venezuela (Amazonas) and northeastern Peru (Loreto). In eastern Brazil, the Variegated Antpitta is found from Pernambuco southward through Bahia and northern Rio Grande do Sul into eastern Paraguay and northeastern Argentina (Misiones and northeastern Corrientes).



It occupies humid forests and mature secondary woodlands. It is generally confined to true lowland forests (below 650 m) but may get to as high as 1400 m in southeastern Brazil.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. Though uncommon to rare within its range, the Variegated Antpitta is not considered globally threatened.

**Diet:** Earthworms, spiders, cockroaches, grasshoppers and centipedes.

**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. It is a fairly large (the largest amongst the lowland antpittas), stout-bodied *Grallaria*, with the typical long legged, upright posture of the genus. Overall, it is brownish, with a gray crown, a prominent whitish submoustachial stripe, and a distinctly variegated breast pattern. The crown and nape are gray, usually with a more olive brown fore crown. The cheeks are paler buffy above a white or creamy white submoustachial streak. The back and upper wings are olive brown, while the flight feathers and tail are a warmer brown. The throat and breast are dark brown or rufous brown with white streaks, with the underparts becoming gradually paler below and with various amounts of fine black barring, and white spotting and streaking.

Nests are situated on fallen logs, crevices on trunks, or atop broken tree stumps, reportedly from 1–2.6 m above the ground. Clutch size appears to be 2 eggs. The incubation is performed only by the female. Both parents feed the nestlings and apparently will produce loud alarm calls in the presence of observers, sometimes giving performing broken wing displays.

**Cool Facts:** It is among the larger and more robust members of the genus *Grallaria*. Throughout its range, Variegated Antpitta most easily is detected by its slightly melancholy sounding, monotone, low hooting song, which is given most frequently at dawn and dusk.

**Common Name:** Scaled Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria guatemalensis*

**Size:** 5.9 inches (15 cm)

**Habitat:** North and South America. This species is found from southern Mexico south, almost continuously in montane areas, to central Bolivia.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population.

**Diet:** Mostly arthropods (centipedes and millipeds); occasionally small frogs.



**Breeding:** Sexes are similar. The fore crown has fine black scaling on a pale olive brownish background, blending to a gray crown and nape. The throat is ochraceous to tawny brown with narrow pale streaking. It is bordered by a broad ochraceous or buffy malar stripes; below the throat is a crescent-shaped paler area, sometimes spotted with black to give a necklaced appearance. The loreal area is whitish or buffy. The auriculars are olive brown with narrow streaking. The back and wing coverts are similar in coloration to the auriculars, with feathers edged in black to give it the scaled appearance (reflected in its common name). The flight feathers and tail feathers are light brown. The under parts are paler than rest, varying from pale tawny to bright ochraceous or rufous.

Nests are bulky, deep, open cups composed externally of a variety of materials, predominantly dead plant materials such as sticks, leaves, and grasses. Some nests, however, are reported to include moss, especially in particularly humid habitats. The inner egg cups are sparsely lined with thin, flexible materials such as pine needles, rootlets, and fungal rhizomorphs. Nests are placed in relatively well-supported locations such as tree stumps, fallen logs, and large forking or overlapping branches, at heights ranging from 0.5-1.5 m. The clutch size is apparently two eggs. Nestlings take 17-19 days to leave the nest.

**Cool Facts:** There are 9 subspecies recognized:

- *G. g. guatemalensis*. First reported by Prévost and Des Murs in 1846. The nominate subspecies is distributed from eastern and southern Mexico (from northwest Veracruz and northern Oaxaca), southward and eastward to northern Nicaragua.
- *G. g. aripoensis*. First reported by Hellmayr and von Seilern in 1912) This is the only subspecies not confined to the mainland, found only in Trinidad. Race *aripoensis* shares the rich, deep coloration of *princeps*, but lacks a dusky throat patch, has buff-colored malar stripe, and an unmarked chest.
- *G. g. princeps*. First reported by Sclater and Salvin in 1869. This Central American subspecies is confined to Costa Rican and western Panama. It is more richly colored than the nominate, with heavier black scaling on the upper parts.
- *G. g. chocoensis*. First reported by Chapman in 1917. Very similar to race *princeps* in its richer coloration, but race *chocoensis* is darker overall, with a more olive crown and wings, and with the lores being somewhat rusty or darker (rather than whitish). It is confined to the northern Choco bioregion, in eastern Panama and northwestern Colombia.
- *G. g. ochraceiventris*. First reported by Nelson in 1898. It is endemic to southern Mexico from Jalisco eastward to western Hidalgo and from southern Guerrero to southern Oaxaca. It is significantly paler than the nominate race, in particular on the underparts. It further differs by having narrow black scaling above and lacking dusky feathers on the throat.
- *G. g. carmelitae*. First reported by Todd in 1915. This race is known only from northern Colombia, in the Santa Marta Mountains and Perijá Mountains, southward to northern Boyacá. It differs from race *regulus* only in being generally darker and browner (rather than olivaceous) on the upper parts and more brownish (than ochraceous) on the underparts.
- *G. g. sororia*. First reported by Berlepsch and Stolzmann in 1901. It is confined to southern Peru, south of Cuzco, and occurs in Bolivia southward and eastward to Santa Cruz. It is considered to be doubtfully separable from *regulus*, differing only in whiter facial markings, a grayer back, and paler under parts.
- *G. g. roraimae*. First reported by Chubb in 1921. This subspecies is confined to the tepui region of southern Venezuela and adjacent areas of

- northern Brazil and western Guyana. It is similar to *regulus*, but has a grayer crown.
- *G. g. regulus*. First reported by Sclater in 1860. Race *regulus* is one of the more widely distributed subspecies, found from northwestern Colombia southward along the western slope of the Andes southward through Ecuador to Cajamarca, Peru. On the eastern Andes it is found from western Venezuela (Mérida) southward through Colombia and eastern Ecuador to central Peru. It is generally smaller than other races, usually has a buffier malar stripe and facial crescent (only occasionally white in some individuals), a dusky throat, pale tawny (rarely white) striping on a dark brown breast. The under-part coloration fades to tawny on the belly and crissum.

**Common Name:** Chestnut-crowned Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria ruficapilla*

**Size:** 7-7.9 inches (17.8–20 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it ranges through the Andes from northern Venezuela south to central Peru.

It has a broad elevational range, from 1,200 to 3,600 m, and occurs in all manner of forest types, but especially favors borders, clearings, second growth, patches of bamboo, and other disturbed habitats.



**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a declining population. The Chestnut-crowned Antpitta can tolerate some degree of human alteration of their habitat. It remains possible that in some areas human activities may even create more habitat for this species and actually boost population levels. Nevertheless, detailed studies involving the effects of fragmentation on this species do show negative effects, and its ability to persist does not necessarily equal the ability to flourish. Particularly for understory insectivores such as the Chestnut-crowned Antpitta, caution should be used when interpreting its ability to persist in fragments without long-term studies from multiple regions and habitat types.

**Diet:** Caterpillars and other foliage-dwelling invertebrates.

**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. It has a bright rufous or chestnut head, including the nape and sides of the head. The loreal and auricular areas either match this coloration, or are somewhat variably washed with (or entirely) white, depending on the subspecies. Overall, the head coloration gives the bird a hooded appearance, contrasting with the bright white throat and brown or olive-brown upper back. The upperparts are uniformly dark, including the tail and wings, as described for the upper back. The underparts, including the belly and crissum, are white with bold, black-brown to olive-brown streaking. The streaking is most prominent on the flanks and extends across the breast to varying degrees by subspecies. Some subspecies also have varying degrees of orange-brown washed across the breast.

**Cool Facts:** Chestnut-crowned Antpitta is easily imitated, and these bold, inquisitive birds will readily approach the observer in response to human whistles. In some places, the birds will even become tame, feeding in car parks and other areas subject to much human activity. Being so widespread and relatively numerous, the Chestnut-crowned Antpitta is one of the better-known members of the *Grallariidae*.

- *G. r. ruficapilla*. First reported by Lafresnaye in 1842. The nominate race is found in West, Central, and East Andes of Colombia south to central-western and southeastern Ecuador, probably including also birds from Cerro Chinguela in northern Peru (Cajamarca and Piura).
- *G. r. perijana*. First reported by Phelps and Gilliard in 1940. This race is endemic to Sierra de Perijá, on the northeast Colombia/western Venezuela border. It is quite similar to races *avilae*, but dark streaks on underparts are fewer and narrower, with more pale orange suffusion, especially on breast, but also this suffusion also extends to the central belly and posterior flanks, whereas in race *avilae* it is largely confined to the breast.
- *G. r. avilae*. First reported by Hellmayr and von Seilern in 1914. It is found in North Venezuelan Coastal Range (easternmost Carabobo east to western Miranda); range often considered to reach as far west as the eastern Venezuelan Andes (in southern Lara). It is quite similar to race *nigrolineata*, but the crown and nape are brighter, and the feathers of the back are a paler greenish-olive; the streaking on the under parts is similarly heavy, as in *nigrolineata*, but the paler fringes on the breast feathers are more pronounced.
- *G. r. nigrolineata*. First reported by P. L. Sclater in 1890. The range is the Andes of Venezuela from northern Trujillo and southern Lara, south to northeastern Táchira. It is similar to the nominate, but the streaking on the breast and flanks is heavier and darker.
- *G. r. connectens*. First reported by Chapman in 1923. It is found in Southwestern Ecuador (El Oro and Loja) and perhaps also in northwest Peru (in the upper Río Piura drainage). It is somewhat intermediate

- between nominate *ruficapilla* and *albiloris*, showing characters of each, but tending more towards *albiloris*.
- *G. r. albiloris*. First reported by Taczanowski in 1880. It is endemic to the Pacific slope of northwest Peru, from Piura south to La Libertad. As implied by its name, this race is separated from the nominate chiefly by the white lores and moustachial, and suffusion of white over the ear-coverts.
  - *G. r. interior*. First reported by J. T. Zimmer in 1934. It is found on the West slope of the Central Andes of Peru in Amazonas and San Martín. It is distinguished from the nominate as having the streaking of the breast, sides, and flanks paler and more brownish-olive, without well-defined dark stripes separating the fringes from the white shaft-streaks. The center of the breast is usually less strongly marked. The whitish shaft-streaks on the feathers of the rump are narrower, without prominent dusky borders, and are overall less apparent. The eye-ring of interior is broader and brighter white, with the dusky line between the lores and the forehead usually heavier. Overall, the underparts are slightly buffier and the rufous of the head a little brighter.

**Common Name:** Jocotoco Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria ridgelyi*

**Size:** 7.9-8.7 inches (20–22 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it is endemic to a very small portion of the eastern Andes in extreme southeastern Ecuador and extreme northeastern Peru. Within this range, it inhabits elevations of 2300 to 2650 m.

It lives on steep, humid slopes, densely covered with epiphyte-laden trees. It favors areas where the 10-25 m canopy is broken by dense areas of Chusquea bamboo, but is perhaps found less closely associated with the bamboo than its similarly large sympatric congener, Chestnut-naped Antpitta (*Grallaria nuchalis*). Indeed, these two species do seem to segregate within the habitat mosaic in this fashion. The Chestnut-naped Antpitta nests within the bamboo, while Jocotoco Antpitta appears to prefer mossier locations.



**Status:** Endangered. **Global Population:** 480-600 mature individuals with a declining population.

**Diet:** Earthworms, beetles, ants, millipedes, and larvae.

It is generally encountered as solitary individuals or pairs. It forages by probing its heavy bill into the leaf litter, overturning dead leaves and vegetation with its bill and feet.

**Breeding:** Sexes are similar in this species, both having a black cap and the rest of the upper-parts brownish olive. The throat is bright white as are most of the lower parts, becoming more washed with light gray lower down. The breast is light gray; the flanks and sides of the breast are gray, washed with olive brown. The most striking feature is its large, bright white patch in front of the eye which extends from the preloral area down to below the eye and onto the anterior portion of the auriculars.

A nest of has been only found in southeastern Ecuador. The nest was 3.6 m above the ground on the side of rotting tree trunk (4.1 m tall; 56 cm diameter at breast height). It was built flush against the trunk and supported primarily by a dense tuft of *Tillandsia* sp. bromeliads and also by a 4-cm diameter, horizontal branch crossing under the nest. The nest was a deep, open cup comprised predominantly of dead and decaying plant materials (dicot and bromeliad leaves). The inner portion of the cup was lined with a thick layer of fine black rootlets and flexible brown fern stems.

**Cool Facts:** It was discovered in 1997 in southern Ecuador. Following this discovery, it has been found at only a handful of locations, including one locality in extreme northern Peru just across the border from the original collection locality. With an extremely small known range and with its montane cloudforest habitat under continued threat of deforestation, it is considered globally endangered.

**Common Name:** Bolivian Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Grallaria cochabambae*

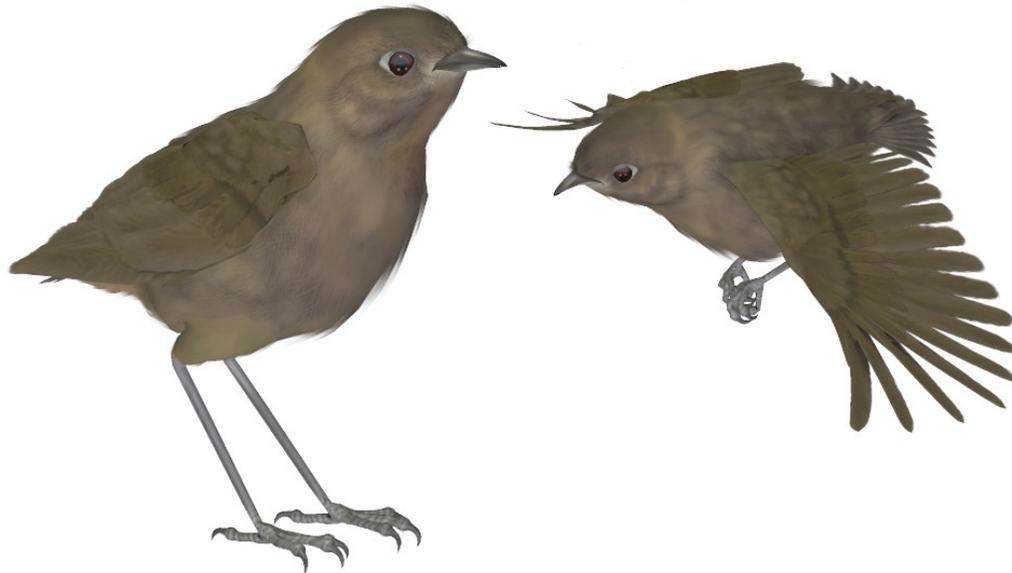
**Size:** 5.7-5.9 inches (14.5–15 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it is widely distributed, found from western Venezuela south to central Bolivia.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. This species is considered to have a medium dependency on forest habitat, and tree cover is estimated to have declined by 1.3% within its mapped range over the past 10 years.

**Diet:** Small insects and caterpillars.

It hops unobtrusively on mossy ground and occasionally into the open on landslides and mossy clearings at dawn and dusk, or when weather is foggy. Sometimes, it perches in shrubs or bushes, especially when disturbed.



**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. Adults are rufous-brown above with the head-sides and under parts rufous, the flanks dark gray-brown, the belly center a dull light rufous with paler feather tips. The abdomen is a buff-white to white, with dark bases more or less visible. The under tail-coverts are variable, from whitish to buffy or dark brown. The iris is dark brown, the bill blackish and the base of the mandible sometimes paler. The tarsus is a dull blue-gray, gray or pinkish gray. Juveniles have a back barred buff, crown and under parts streaked whitish.

Eggs are laid in March and April in northeastern Ecuador, in March–May in northern Colombia (Santa Marta Mts) and in September–October in northern Peru. The nest is a cup made entirely of thin yellowish grass stems set upon dark, damp leaves or moss, lined with mammal hair or pale fibers and dark fungal rhizomorphs, and placed about 0.75–2 m above ground in shallow hollow on side of a stump or on epiphytic bromeliads.

**Cool Facts:** This species was originally considered one of the Rufous Antpitta subspecies (*Grallaria rufula*) but moved into its own species due to its considerable difference in its vocalizations from other Rufous Antpittas.

**Common Name:** Speckle-breasted Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Cryptopezus nattereri*

**Size:** 5.2 inches (13.5 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it is endemic to southeastern Brazil in southern Minas Gerais, and from western Paraná eastward to western Rio de Janeiro and southwards to extreme eastern Paraguay, northeastern Argentina (Misiones) and northern Rio Grande do Sul.

It is found on the ground and in lower growth in humid and montane forests, mature secondary woodlands, and borders. It is often found in very densely tangled vegetation and bamboo.



**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a stable population. This population is suspected to be stable in the absence of evidence for any declines or substantial threats.

**Diet:** Small insects, including invertebrates and small vertebrates.

It is primarily terrestrial. It performs short hops, punctuated by abrupt stops to cock head sideways while looking at or listening towards ground. It probes leaf litter and soil, sometimes repeatedly for several seconds.

**Breeding:** Sexes are similar. The adult has pale buff lores, whitish moustache; upper parts are olive-brown and the wings browner. The primary coverts are dark, contrasting ill-defined relatively small ochraceous speculum on base of

primaries. There is a dusky malar streak, white throat and belly center, pale ochraceous-buff breast, sides and flanks, sides scalloped, breast, upper belly and flanks spotted dusky. The iris is dark brown and the bare orbital skin buffy white. The bill is blackish, with the basal half of lower mandible pinkish-gray; the tarsus is pinkish-gray.

It sings from perch up to 2 m above ground. The nest is made of sticks..

**Cool Facts:** Like most antpittas, the Speckle-breasted Antpitta is usually first located by virtue of its mildly 'haunting' song, a short, evenly paced series of whistled notes lasting approximately 2.5 seconds.

**Common Name:** Streak-chested Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Hylopezus perspicillatus*

**Size:** 4.9-5.5 inches (12.5–14 cm)

**Habitat:** North and South America; it is a sedentary, year-round inhabitant of tropical lowland forest with a latitudinal distribution stretching from eastern Honduras to northwestern Ecuador.

It inhabits lowland tropical evergreen wet forest throughout Central America and northern South America. They are absent from dry lowland forests and montane forests within their Central American range. In Panama, they are most abundant on the Caribbean slope (northern coast) and are absent from the Pacific slope.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** 50,000-499,999 mature individuals with a decreasing population. The species has undergone a large, significant decline between 1970 and 2014. A remote-sensing study found that forest loss within its range over the past decade was 5%, thus the species may be declining by <10% over a ten-year period.

**Diet:** Predominantly insectivorous, preferring terrestrial arthropods such as spiders and crickets.

**Breeding:** Sexes are alike. Individuals have the long legs and stubby tail, but can be distinguished from other antpittas by the combination of gray cap, prominent yellow eye ring, and white breast with black streaking. The descriptions below refer to adult individuals that already have attained basic plumage. Juveniles



have mostly chestnut upper-parts, slightly paler chestnut-rufous under-parts mixed with buff on the belly, and wing-coverts with buff tips and rufous edges

**Cool Facts:** The Spanish common name is *Tororoi* ("antpitta") *pechilistado* (literally "streak-chested"). The generic name is derived from the Greek *hulo* ("wood" or "matter") and the Latin *pez* ("foot" or "bottom"). The specific epithet is derived from the Latin *perspicillatus* ("sharp-sighted"). These words accurately characterize Streak-chested Antpittas, which spend their time almost exclusively on the forest floor either intently foraging for terrestrial invertebrates or resting (during which they repeatedly puff their breast feathers in a distinctive manner).

Subspecies include:

- *H. p. intermedius*. It is endemic to Caribbean slope from eastern Honduras southward to western Panama (Bocas del Toro).
- *H. p. lizanoi*. It is found on the Pacific slope in southern Costa Rica (formerly eastward to western Chiriquí, in Panama).
- *H. p. perspicillatus*. The nominate race is found in Panama (from Veraguas and Coclé) eastward to northwestern Colombia (northern Chocó).
- *H. p. periophthalmicus*. It is endemic to the Pacific slope from western Colombia (Baudo Mts, in Chocó) southward to northwestern Ecuador (Esmeraldas).
- *H. p. pallidior*. It is found in Colombia in the valleys of the upper Sinú River, the lower Cauca River and the middle Magdalena River.

**Common Name:** Alta Floresta Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Hylopezus whittakeri*

**Size:** 5.5 inches (14 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it is endemic to south-central Brazil (Amazonia), confined to the Rio Madeira–Rio Xingu interfluvium.

It inhabits humid lowland forest, apparently most frequently in swampy or flooded areas in upland *terra firme* forest, and often around gaps such as treefalls.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. Like other members of the 'Spotted Antpitta complex,' this species appears quite sensitive to habitat loss, fragmentation, and perturbation, given that it was detected in only 25% of 31



variably sized (1.2–100,000 ha) forest patches in northern Mato Grosso, where the smallest occupied patch was 19 ha. It is also thought to be fairly sensitive to edges created by roads. The species' range is not particularly small and, thankfully, it occurs in several protected areas.

**Diet:** Small insects, including invertebrates and small vertebrates.

**Breeding:** Sexes are similar. It has a dark gray crown and dull greenish-brown upper parts and wings, the latter with a prominent dark rectangle on their leading edge near the top, and two buffy wingbars broken into spots. The buffy-orange lores are separated from a similarly colored and fairly prominent eye ring by a narrow black crescent. The pale under-parts, white centrally and buffy laterally, have distinctive black spotting, heaviest on the upper breast and becoming sparser and smaller lower down.

**Cool Facts:** The distinctiveness of this species has been recognized since at least since 1989, when Ted Parker first visited the Alta Floresta. Nevertheless, no formal attempt was made to describe this population until much later, largely because it was assumed that it represented the Sneath's Antpitta (*Hylopezus paraensis*). While investigating its taxonomy, scientists realized the distinctiveness of birds in the Rio Madeira–Xingu interfluvium. Details of its natural history, breeding biology, vocal repertoire, and distribution of this species still remain almost entirely unknown.

**Common Name:** Thrush-like Antpitta  
**Scientific Name:** *Myrmothera campanisona*

**Size:** 5.5 inches (14 cm)

**Habitat:** South America; it occurs in the Amazon Basin from eastern Colombia to the Guianas, south through Amazonian Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru, to northern Bolivia.

It is an inhabitant of humid lowland rainforests and foothills, apparently preferring dense understory around treefalls, re-growing clearings, and road edges.

**Status:** Least Concern. **Global Population:** Unknown number of mature individuals with a decreasing population. Despite its preference of edge and disturbed habitat it is suspected that slow declines are ongoing due to the loss and fragmentation of forests and subsequent decline of its insect.



**Diet:** Weevils, ants, grasshoppers, millipedes and small beetles.

It forages alone or, apparently infrequently, in pairs, hopping and walking across the forest floor, sometimes climbing onto logs and low branches.

**Breeding:** Sexes are similar. It is long-legged and stands upright like other terrestrial antpittas. In silhouette, it is more similar to the slender *Hylopezus* than to the rather plump species of *Grallaria*. Adults have somewhat buffy lores and a

small white patch behind the eye. The sides of the throat are white, mottled with brown, while the sides of the head and upperparts are dull rufous brown. Below, the ground color of the underparts is predominantly white, with the sides and flanks often washed with olive brown or olive gray. The breast and sides are streaked with brownish, usually leaving the central belly and vent pure white.

Nests generally are placed low to the ground, usually supported by multiple small supports such as the rosette of a fern or palm, crisscrossing vines, or tangles of small branches. Two eggs are laid and both sexes care for the young.

**Cool Facts:** The Thrush-like Antpitta currently includes five subspecies:

- *M. c. modesta*. First reported by P. L. Sclater in 1855. It is the most range-restricted of the subspecies, and is apparently confined to the base of the East Andes of Colombia south from the vicinity of Cabuyaro in northern Meta to the Serranía de la Macarena. It is said to be more olive-brown, less rufescent, than the nominate race. There are indications of darker marginations to the feathers of the nape and back. The breast feathers are medially yellowish-white, broadly margined with olivaceous.
- *M. c. dissors*. First reported by J. T. Zimmer in 1934. The range of Race *dissors* has historically (and rather vaguely) described as extending across the northwestern Amazon from eastern Colombia to southern Venezuela and north-west Brazil. It is supposedly more olive-brown above (less rufescent) than the nominate race (but less olive than race *modesta*), slightly paler rufescent than minor and much paler than race *signata*. The color of the bare parts have been described as: Iris dark brown; Bill black, mandible pink basally; Tarsi & Toes pale gray.
- *M. c. campanisona*. First reported by Hermann in 1783. The range of the nominate subspecies extends from eastern Venezuela, the Guianas, and Suriname, southward to Rio Amazonas.
- *M. c. signata*. First reported by J. T. Zimmer in 1934. This race is distributed from the base of the East Andes in southern Colombia south to the left bank of the Río Marañón and then east through northern Peru, north of the Río Amazonas to the right bank of the Río Napo. It is said to be more olive-brown, less rufescent, than the nominate race and distinctly darker and more rufous than race *minor*.
- *M. c. minor*. First reported by Taczanowski in 1882. This south-western subspecies occurs throughout the Peruvian Amazon (south of the Río Marañón), including most or all of the outlying ridges such as Cordillera Vilcabamba and Cerros del Sira, and east into adjacent western Brazil to at least the Rio Purus, and south to north-west Bolivia. It is considered to be duller above, more olive-brown, less rufescent, than the nominate race.

Special thanks to my beta team

Alisa and FlintHawk

## Species Accuracy and Reference Materials

Many birds of the same species do vary considerably in color. This package tries to emulate the colors and markings in the most commonly found variants.

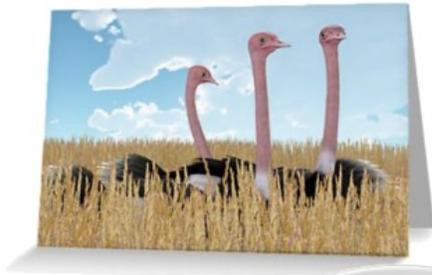
The author-artist has tried to make these species as accurate to their real life counterparts as possible. With the use of one generic model to create dozens of unique bird species, some give and take is bound to occur. The texture maps were created in Painter with as much accuracy as possible. Photographic references from photographs from various Internet searches and several field guides were used.

### Field Guide Sources:

- **Wikipedia** (<http://www.wikipedia.com>)
- **Birdlife International** (<http://www.birdlife.org> )
- **Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive** (<https://www.hbw.com>)
- **Neotropical Birds** (<https://neotropical.birds.cornell.edu>)

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