

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

Songbird ReMix

Puffins

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Songbird ReMix

Puffins

Introduction

“Songbird ReMix Puffins” includes eight species of alcids found throughout the world. Within the Alcid family are Auks, Auklets and Puffins. Of course, the most well-known member of the family is Puffins. The sad expressions upon their clown-like faces and colorful bills make them an iconic bird of the northern oceans. Also included are four species of Auklets and the little Auk or Dovekie.

Overview and Use








Select **Figures** in Runtime Folder and go to the **Songbird ReMix** folder. Here you’ll find an assortment of files that are easily broken into 2 groups: **Conforming Parts** and **Bird Base models**. Let’s look at what they are and how you use them:

- **Bird Base Models**
 - **Puffin Base Model** - This model is used specifically for Puffins, Auks and Auklets. All Bird characters included use this base model.
- **Conforming Parts** (All Conforming Crests have alphabetical Icons in the lower right corners such as “C”, “C4” or “T3”. This corresponds with characters in the Pose folders. All MAT/MOR files with the same icon use that particular Conforming Part. ***Be sure to read this:*** Most conforming parts are Crest which covers the head part. When posing the Base Model, the Conforming Part will follow any Bend, Twist or Rotate Commands. It will not obey any **SCALE** or **MORPH** commands you give the Base Model. You must manually scale the Conforming Part and with morphs such as “OpenBeak” you must also set its counterpart in the head part of the Conforming Crest. So Now let’s look at what’s included in Conforming Parts:

- **<C25> Conforming Crest25.** For use with the Tufted Puffin. Look in the “**BODY**” Section for Easy-Pose Controls.
- **<C26> Conforming Crest26.** For use with the Crested Auklet. Look in the “**Head**” Section for morphs.
- **<C27> Conforming Crest27.** For use with the Whiskered Auklet. Look in the “**Head**” Section for morphs.



Conforming Crest Quick Reference

Load Model(s)	To Create... (apply MAT/MOR files)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atlantic Puffin • Horned Puffin • Parakeet Auklet • Rhinoceros Auklet • Dovekie or Little Auk
 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tufted Puffin
 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crested Auklet
 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whiskered Auklet

Creating a Songbird ReMix Bird with Poser

Here's a step by step to create a bird in POSER:

1. Choose what you want to load. For this example, we'll create an "American Robin".
2. Load Poser and select **FIGURES** and the Songbird ReMix folder. Because the "American Robin" uses the basic "Songbird" base model we'll load that.
3. Go to the **POSES** folder and select the appropriate Songbird Remix library. In this case, we'll select the "American Robin" pose and apply it to our loaded Songbird ReMix base model. This pose contains morph and texture settings to turn the generic model into an "American Robin". As explained earlier in the Character Base Section, the Alphabet letter appearing on the base of a bird's Icon refers to what model it expects to adhere to. Thus the "Parrot" character is going to want the <P> Parrot Base Songbird ReMix Model. Birds with no icon usually want the Songbird Base.

Scaling and Square Shadows in Poser

All the birds in this package have to scaled proportionally to DAZ 3D's Victoria and Michael models. The smallest of the included birds (such as the Robins) **MAY** render with a Square shadow or improper lighting. This is a bug in Poser. Poser can't figure out how to render a shadow for something really small, so it creates a square shadow. The solution is to put a larger item that casts a normal Poser shadow in the scene (even if it is off camera) and the square shadows will be fixed or BODY scale the bird to a larger size.

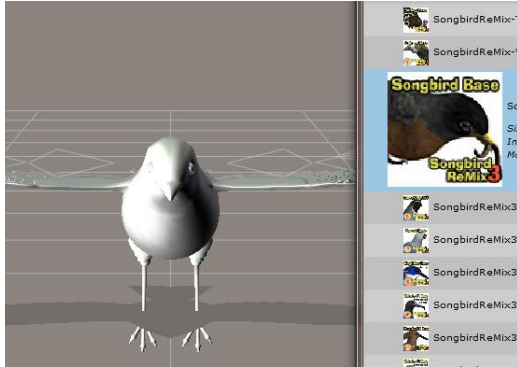


without prop off screen

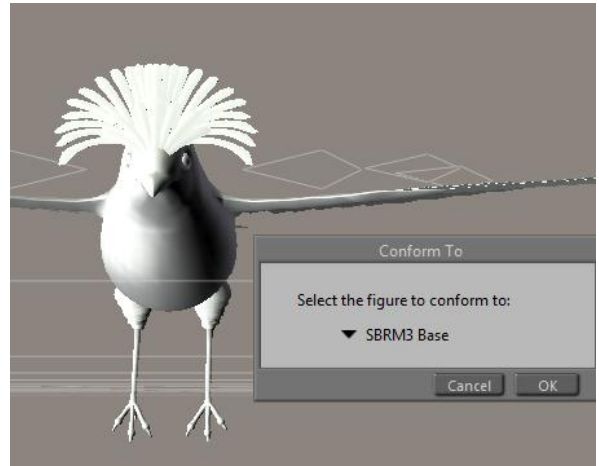


with prop off screen, lights/shadows will properly render

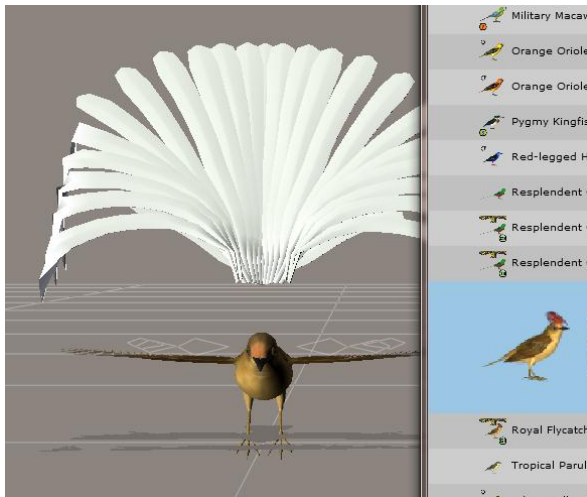
How to build a Songbird ReMix Character with a Conforming Crest in Poser



1. In the Figures section, load a Bird base Model. Then load the appropriate conforming part for the bird you're trying to create.
2. **Conform it** to the bird base model.



3. Select the Base Model and go to **POSES**. Select and apply the appropriate Character/Material pose setting for the bird you're creating.



4. The Conforming part will look wrong. That's okay—we're going to fix that now. Select the conforming part and apply appropriate Character/Material pose for the part.

5. Voila! Your bird is done. Just remember to select the bird base when posing and often there are additional morphs in the conforming part you can use.



Creating a Songbird ReMix Bird with Studio

Here's a step by step to create a bird in DAZ Studio:

1. Choose what you want to load. For this example, we'll create an "American Robin".
2. Load DAZ Studio and in Studio's **Runtime** Folder, select **FIGURES** and the Songbird ReMix folder. Because the "American Robin" uses the basic "Songbird" base model we'll load that.
3. Now, select the Studio **Content** Folder and go to the **Animals : SBRM : !CreateYour Own : Characters** folder and select the appropriate Songbird Remix library. In this case, we'll select the "American Robin" pose and apply it to our loaded Songbird ReMix base model. This pose contains morph and texture settings to turn the generic model into an "American Robin". As explained earlier in the Character Base Section, the Alphabet letter appearing on the base of a bird's Icon refers to what model it expects to adhere to. Thus the "Parrot" character is going to want the **<P>** Parrot Base Songbird ReMix Model. Birds with no icon usually want the Songbird Base,

Known Issues with DAZ|Studio

Propagating Scale Issues

Some versions of DAZ|Studio have problems with the Propagating Scale of the Feet in Songbird ReMix. Unfortunately, the only current solution is to manually scale all the digits on each foot. To determine if manual scaling is needed, look at the SCALE settings on rFoot or lFoot parts in DAZ|Studio. If the amount is more than 100%, then all the digits (rPinky1, rPinky2, rMid1, etc.) will need to be scaled accordingly. The " ! Scale Feet" folder will automatically correct this for you.

All the characters in this product have already been corrected.

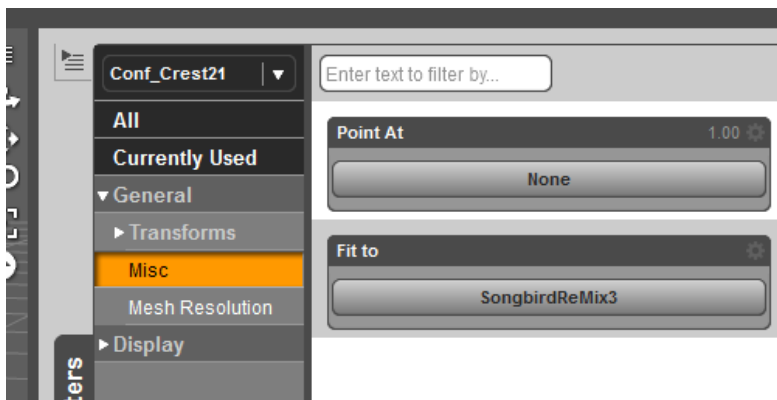
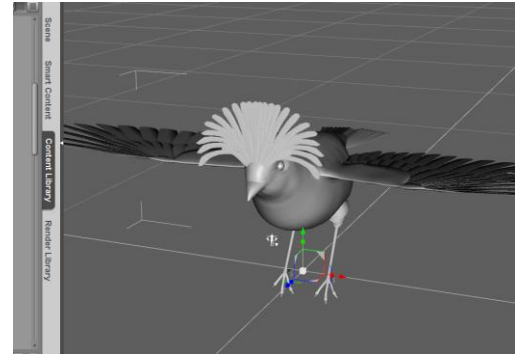
Earlier DAZ Studio versions of this product used Studio's scene files (.daz) to create pre-built birds. Unfortunately the programmers of Studio decided not to support "backwards compatibility" so older pre-built birds saved in .daz may no longer work. It is best to delete the older version of this product.

For more troubleshooting, visit the [Songbird ReMix FAQ](#)

How to build a Songbird ReMix Character with a Conforming Crest in DAZ Studio

In the **Runtime** folder, select **Figures** and load the Songbird ReMix Model and the appropriate Conforming Crest in Studio. Select the Conforming Crest by selecting on the screen or in the **Scene** Tab.

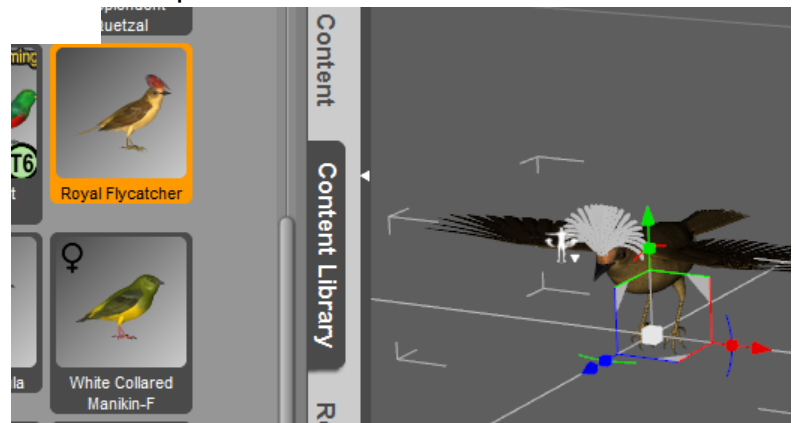
Now, using the "FIT TO" command in the Parameters Tab, Select the Songbird ReMix Model. Go back to the **Scene** Tab and select the Songbird ReMix Model.



Select the Studio **Content** Folder and go to the **Animals : SBRM : !CreateYour Own : Characters** folder and select the appropriate Songbird Remix library. Apply the Character setting to the bird base. It will probably reduce the size significantly and change the shape of the bird.

Now that the bird is sized, select the conforming part and apply the conforming part character settings.

Voila! Your bird is done. Just remember to select the bird base when posing and often there are additional morphs in the conforming part you can use.



Songbird ReMix

Puffins

Puffins

North Atlantic

Atlantic Puffin

North Pacific

Horned Puffin

Tufted Puffin

Other Auks

North Pacific

Crested Auklet

Parakeet Auklet

Rhinoceros Auklet

Whiskered Auklet

North Atlantic & Arctic

Dovekie or Little Auk

Common Name: Atlantic Puffin
Scientific Name: *Fratercula arctica*

Size: 12 ½ inches (32 cm)

Habitat: North Atlantic: coasts of northern Europe south to northern France, Ireland, the Faroe Islands, Iceland, Greenland and eastern North America south to Maine. Winters south to Morocco and New York.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 5,700,000 - 6,000,000 mature individuals. Puffins are hunted for eggs, feathers and meat. Atlantic Puffin populations drastically declined due to habitat destruction and exploitation during the 1800s and early 1900s. They continue to be hunted in Iceland and the Faroes even today. The Atlantic Puffin forms part of the national diet in Iceland, where the species does not have legal protection. Puffins are hunted by a technique called “sky fishing”, which involves catching low-flying birds with a big net. Their meat is commonly featured on hotel menus. The fresh heart of a Puffin is eaten raw as a traditional Icelandic delicacy.

Diet: Sandeel, herring and capelin.

Nesting: Puffins breed in colonies on coasts and islands. The male Atlantic Puffin builds the nest and exhibits strong nest-site fidelity. The nesting substrate of the Atlantic Puffins is soft soil, into which tunnels are dug. The Atlantic Puffin burrow is usually lined with material such as grass, leaves and feathers but is occasionally unlined. The eggs of the Atlantic Puffin are creamy white but can be occasionally tinged lilac.



Atlantic Puffin, Lundy, UK Puffins form long-term pair bonds or relationships. The female lays a single egg, and both parents incubate the egg and feed the chick. The incubating parent holds the egg against its brood patch with its wings. The chicks fledge at night. After fledging, the chicks spend the first few years of their lives at sea, returning to breed about five years later. Puffins in captivity have been known to breed as early as three years of age.

After breeding, puffins winter at sea, usually far from coasts and often extending south of the breeding range.

Cool Facts: “Fratercula” in Latin means “little brother” and is probably a reference to puffins’ black and white plumage, which resembles monastic robes.

The puffins are distinct in their ability to hold several (sometimes over a dozen) small fish at a time, crosswise in their bill, rather than regurgitating swallowed fish. This allows them to take longer foraging trips, since they can come back with more food energy for their chick than a bird that can only carry one fish at a time.



Common Name: Horned Puffin
Scientific Name: *Fratercula corniculata*

Size: 15 inches (38 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific: coasts of Siberia, Alaska and British Columbia, wintering south to California and Baja California. All large breeding colonies of Horned Puffins in North America are located within national wildlife refuges in Alaska. This Puffin is usually found at sea.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 1,200,000 mature individuals. Drift-net fisheries on the high seas killed tens of thousands of Horned Puffins until the practice was largely eliminated by the early 1990s. Coastal fisheries still cause some Horned Puffin deaths. The population of these birds has been declining dramatically due to the introduction of rats onto some islands used for nesting.



Diet: Sandeel, herring and capelin; sometimes squid and crustaceans.

Nesting: The yellow bill plate grows before the breeding season and is shed later. Juveniles resemble non-breeding adults, without "horn" above eye.

Puffins breed in colonies on coasts and islands. Both sexes of the Horned Puffin help to construct their nest. Horned Puffin burrows are usually about 1 meter (3 feet) deep, ending in a chamber. The nesting sites of Horned Puffins are rock crevices on cliffs.

Feeding areas are usually located fairly far offshore from the nest. There is usually one chick and both parents feed the young.

After breeding, puffins winter at sea, usually far from coasts and often extending south of the breeding range

Cool Facts: The “Horned” name come from the black horn-like shape above their eyes.



Common Name: Tufted Puffin
Scientific Name: *Fratercula cirrhata*

Size: 15 inches (38 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific: British Columbia, throughout southeastern Alaska and the Aleutian Islands, Kamchatka, the Kuril Islands and throughout the Sea of Okhotsk. Winters south to Honshu and Northern California.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 3,500,000 mature individuals. Colonies fluctuate in size annually, based in part upon food supply and climatic events, such as El Niño. The Tufted Puffin is one of the most abundant and conspicuous seabirds nesting in the north Pacific. Many California populations, however, have disappeared or significantly declined. In recent years, potentially serious declines have occurred in Washington as well. Oil spills and gill-nets are threats to Tufted Puffins, as is human disturbance. In Washington, most breeding colonies are protected as wildlife refuges or are inaccessible to humans. Populations of large gulls, which prey on young puffins, have been increasing in Washington, which may account for some of the recent decline in numbers.

Diet: Small fish. They also eat crustaceans, mollusks, and cephalopods.

Nesting: Their most distinctive feature and namesake are the yellow tufts (Latin: cirri) that appear annually on birds of both sexes as the summer reproductive season approaches. Their feet become bright red and their face also becomes bright white in the summer. During the feeding season, the tufts molt off and the plumage, beak and legs lose much of their luster. Juvenile puffins resemble winter adults, but with a grey-brown breast, white belly, and a shallow, brown bill.



Breeding takes place on isolated islands: over 25,000 pairs have been recorded in a single colony off the coast of British Columbia.

Tufted Puffins probably form long-term pair bonds. They nest in burrows at the edges of cliffs, on grassy slopes, or in natural crevices in rocks. The pair spends a great deal of time preparing the nest site, excavating the burrow with their bills and feet. The burrow is 2-7 feet long with a nest chamber at the end. This chamber may be lined with grass or feathers, or sometimes nothing at all. Digging the nest burrow is a time-consuming job, and the birds most likely do not breed in the season in which they dig the burrow, but wait until the following year. When the pair finally breeds, the female lays one egg, which both parents incubate for 6-1/2 to 7-1/2 weeks. Both parents care for the young for another 6-7 weeks, after which time the fledgling leaves its burrow at night and moves to sea. Most young birds are not yet capable of flight at this time, so they walk, or flutter to sea, without parental aid.

Cool Facts: As among other alcids, the wings are relatively short, adapted for diving, underwater swimming and capturing prey rather than gliding, of which they are incapable. As a consequence, they have thick, dark myoglobin-rich breast muscles adapted for a fast and aerobically strenuous wing-beat cadence, which they can nonetheless maintain for long periods of time.

The Tufted Puffin can capture and hold multiple small fish crosswise in its bill, routinely 5 to 20 fish at a time, for delivery to chicks at the nest. Adults eat their own food while still under water.

The Aleut and Ainu people of the North Pacific traditionally hunted Tufted Puffin for food and feathers. Skins were used to make tough parkas worn feather side in and the silky tufts were sewn into ornamental work. Currently, harvesting of Tufted Puffin is illegal or discouraged throughout its range.

Tufted Puffins are preyed upon by various avian raptors such as Snowy Owls, Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons, and mammals like the Arctic Foxes. Foxes seem to prefer the puffin over other birds, making the bird a main target. Choosing inaccessible cliffs and entirely mammal-free islands protects them from terrestrial predators while laying eggs in burrows is effective in protecting them from egg-scavengers like gulls and ravens.

Common Name: Crested Auklet
Scientific Name: *Aethia cristatella*

Size: 10 ½ inches (26.7 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific; breeds in Aleutians and other islands and coasts around Bering Sea. Winters in nearby ocean waters.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 8,200,000 mature individuals. Threats by introduced predators, oil spills and food shortages caused by global warming may cause significant population declines.

Diet: Krill, occasionally copepods, pteropods (such as *Limacina*), amphipods and larval fishes.



Nesting: Nests in huge colonies (10,000 to over 1 million individuals). In breeding season, white plume behind white eye and prominent forward-curving black crest; red bill, with an extra red plate on side of face. In winter, crest shorter, bill brown. Juveniles lack crest. Its crest ornament is present in both sexes and varies in size both within and between age groups. Crested Auklets are socially monogamous; both sexes prefer mates with large crests, an example confirming Darwin's theory of mutual sexual selection. Males, and to a lesser extent females, compete aggressively for mates and nest sites, and crest size correlates with dominance. Pairs engage in elaborate courtship behavior with stereotyped postural displays that increase in intensity as courtship proceeds; displays may attract other Crested Auklets in jostling melees.

Nests are located deep in crevices. They lay a single egg per clutch. Both male and female help to care for their semi-precocial young, which fledges at almost adult size after about 33 days in its nesting crevice

Cool Facts: Perfume and insect repellent all in one? Crested auklets rub a citrus-like scent on each other during courtship which is secreted from the feathers on their backs. This behavior called “alloanointing”. While this behavior is well known among some mammals, only Crested and Whiskered Auklets have been found to exhibit this behavior in the bird world. The secreted oil is also believed to protect the birds from parasites, such as ticks.

Their main predators are Herring Gulls and other gulls, Arctic Fox and ravens, but they have been reported in the stomachs of halibut caught on St. Lawrence Island.



Common Name: Parakeet Auklet
Scientific Name: *Aethia psittacula*

Size: 10 inches (25.4 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific: found in the boreal waters of Alaska and Kamchatka and Siberia. It breeds on the cliffs, slopes and boulder fields of offshore islands, generally moving south during the winter.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 1,200,000 mature individuals. It is not thought to have declined recently, but may be threatened in the future by introduced predators, oil spills and food shortages caused by global warming.

Diet: Euphausiids, copepods and amphipods. Recent research shows it also preys on jellyfish in some areas. It often feeds at a considerable distance from the colony, diving up to 30 m to reach its prey.



Nesting: Breeding begins in April and May in colonies that are often shared with other auk species. Nests are constructed in crevices of cliffs, slopes and boulder fields facing seaward. In some cases, they auklets may dig burrows in the soil to nest in.

They lay a single white egg that is incubated by both parents. The chick stays in the nest site until fully grown, where it waits for its parents to return from sea with food. When the chick has grown enough to fly, it leaves its crevice at night and flies out to sea. Its parents stop taking care of it once it leaves the nest and so it must quickly learn to swim and find food on its own.

Cool Facts: Parakeet Auklets spend most of their lives at sea, coming to land only to breed and raise young. They are usually seen singly at sea.

Calls: They are silent at sea. Adults in colony give rhythmic, hoarse calls similar to Cassin's Auklet. It may also give a quavering, descending squeal. They are highly vocal species at the nest.

Its wing beats are slower than other auklets.



Common Name: Rhinoceros Auklet
Scientific Name: *Cerorhinca monocerata*

Size: 15 inches (38 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific: Breeds from California (the Channel Islands) to the Aleutian Islands in Alaska in North America; and Hokkaidō and Honshū, Japan, as well as North Korea and Sakhalin Island in Asia. It winters both in offshore and inshore waters, exhibiting some migration

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 1,300,000 mature individuals

Diet: Fish, with some krill and squid when at sea. They feed inshore during the breeding season in the mid-water. To catch their prey, they dive to as deep as 57 meters (187 ft) for as long as 148 seconds.



Nesting: Nests in burrows dug into the soil or in natural caves and cavities between 1 to 5 m deep. It prefers nesting sites on slight inclines to aid take-off (as it is a poor flier). A single egg is incubated by both parents for 45 days, the semiprecocial chick is then fed each night with a bill full of fish (in the manner of puffins) for 50 days. The nocturnal behavior is believed to be a response to predation by gulls.

Cool Facts: Its name is derived from a horn-like extension of the beak. This horn is only present in breeding adults, and like the elaborate sheath on the bill of puffins is shed every year. The Rhinoceros Auklet is also known as the Rhino Auklet, Horn-billed Puffin, or Unicorn Puffin. It is the only living species of the genus *Cerorhinca*.

The Rhinoceros Auklet gives a series of 7 to 12 mellow "moo" notes sound much like a cow when near the colony. This is done to aid in location of its mate at night.



Common Name: Whiskered Auklet
Scientific Name: *Aethia pygmaea*

Size: 7 ¾ inches (19.7 cm)

Habitat: North Pacific: Breeds on Alaska's Aleutian Islands, where it is thought to nest on no more than 10 islands and Asia's Commander Island and south to Kurile Island. It is also observed in the Sea of Okhotsk. Aleutian birds spend the winter in waters near nesting islands. Some Asian birds move further south to spend winters near Japan.

Status: Least Concern/Vulnerable. **Global Population:** 100,000 mature individuals. Predation of eggs and chicks by introduced arctic foxes and Norway rats on breeding islands is the largest threat. Nocturnal fishing activities near breeding colonies that use lights pose an unknown but potentially serious threat as birds come and go from breeding colonies at night and they can be attracted to lights and collide with ships or become entangled in nets. Oil spills also pose potentially serious threats as they can affect large areas in a short period of time.

Most habitats preferred by Whiskered Auklets are protected within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge (Aleutian Islands). Many aspects of the breeding biology and population dynamics of this species are unknown and

research on this bird is difficult because of its nocturnal behavior, hard-to-locate and widely dispersed nests, and isolated breeding and winter ranges. Without population estimates, however, managing viable populations will be difficult. Until then, habitat protection must remain a priority for this species both within and outside the U.S. The removal of introduced predators from the nesting islands of Whiskered Auklets should also be a priority.



U.S. National Wildlife Refuges like the Alaska Maritime NWR in Alaska provide essential habitat for Whiskered Auklets, and a great number of other species throughout the U.S. and its territories. Unfortunately, the refuge system is often under-funded during the U.S. government's budgeting process.

Diet: Copepods during the summer months, mostly on the species *Neocalanus plumchrus*; and switching to euphausiid krill in the fall and winter.. They often stick to nearshore areas where currents converge and concentrate zooplankton

Nesting: Neither the male nor the female builds a nest. Instead, the female lays one egg on bare rock or in a small crevice on a cliff face. A colonial breeder, Whiskered Auklet colonies often number far less than those of Least and Crested Auklets. Both parents feed young regurgitated food (marine zooplankton) at night..



Cool Facts: One of the smallest and rarest of the alcids in the U.S. (only the Kittlitz's, Craveri's, and Xantus Murrelets have smaller populations), the Whiskered Auklet breeds and winters largely in the remote Aleutian Islands of Alaska.

Its name is derived from the long white feathers on its face that are part of its breeding plumage. The whiskers have been shown to help them sense their way to and out of their nests at night.

Common Name: Dovekie or Little Auk
Scientific Name: *Alle alle*

Size: 8½ inches (19-21 cm)

Habitat: North Atlantic and Arctic: It breeds along high arctic coasts (Iceland and Greenland) and only makes its way southward in winter as far as New England. Also a rare visitor on the coasts of the British Islands and it has been reported as common as far to the northward as Spitzbergen.

Status: Least Concern. **Global Population:** 16,000,000 - 36,000,000 mature individuals. Large numbers of Little Auks have been killed in several oil-spill incidents, but climate changes (such as global warming happen) in Southern Greenland and Iceland seems to be the reason for the decreasing populations there.

Diet: Small fish, crustacea and mollusks, especially copepods. They collect in large groups before heading out to sea for food. They also gather into large groups as they return. Dovekies dive underwater to capture their prey, using their wings to swim. Dovekies may play the part of scavenger, cleaning up remains of the kill a Polar Bear made.



Nesting: Non-breeding Adults and Juveniles have a white throat and upper breast with a whitish crescent on side of neck. Breeding Adults are black with a white breast.

Dovekies nest in large colonies. The Dovekie builds a simple nest, a bed of pebbles in crevice amongst boulder field or in the crevices of rocky cliffs, bordering the sea coast. It lays one or two bluish white eggs which are about the size of the pigeons.

Cool Facts: The Dovekie is generally silent at sea; but makes a high trilling call at the nesting colony. Their flight is direct, with fast whirring wing beats due to the short wings. There are two subspecies: *Alle alle alle* breeds in Greenland, Iceland, Novaya Zemlya and Spitsbergen, and *Alle alle polaris* on Franz Josef Land.



The Dovekie breeding population at Thule in northwestern Greenland is amongst largest and densest breeding aggregations of all auks. This population traditionally has been estimated as 30 million birds.

Dovekies sometimes show up out of range along the east coast of North America in massive wrecks of stranded, starving birds. Sustained, strong easterly winds may make feeding conditions unsuitable and push the weakened, emaciated birds landward. The largest recorded wreck in North America, in the winter of 1932 -1933, saw Dovekies raining down on the streets of New York City and large numbers washing up along the entire eastern seaboard, from Nova Scotia to Florida.

The Glaucous Gull and the Arctic Fox are the main predators on Little Auks, and, in some cases, the Polar Bear has also been reported to feed on their eggs.

Special Thanks to...

....my beta team (Bea, Jan, Kelvin, Nancy, Rhonda, Sandra and Walter)

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:

- “The Sibley Guide to Birds” by David Allen Sibley
- Science Daily (<http://www.sciencedaily.com>)
- All About Birds/Cornell (<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/AllAboutBirds/>)
- Wikipedia (<http://www.wikipedia.com>)
- BirdGuides.com (<http://www.birdguides.com>)
- Birdlife International (<http://www.birdlife.org>)
- The Puffin Project (<http://www.projectpuffin.org/PuffinCam.html>)

Other Resources:

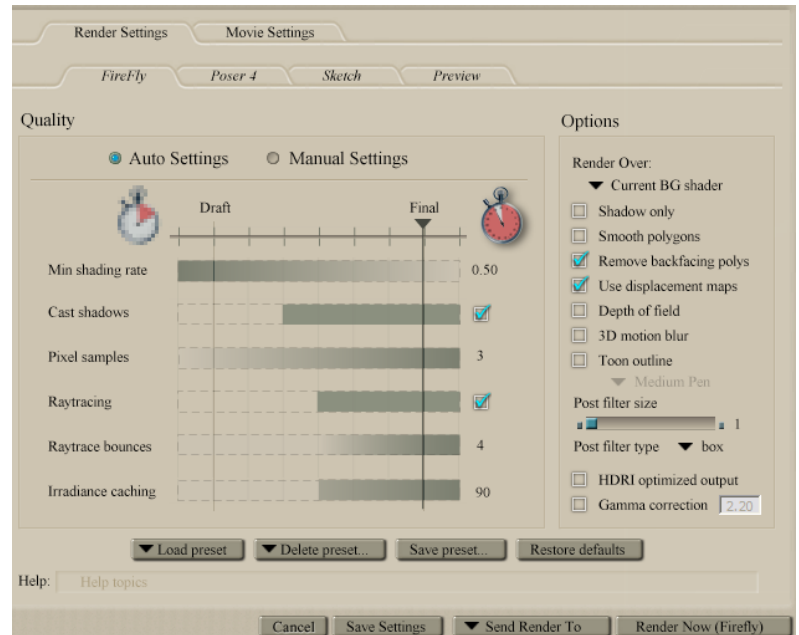
- Songbird ReMix Central (<http://www.songbirdremix.com>)
- Songbird ReMix “Bird Brains” User Group and Forum (<http://artzone.daz3d.com/groups/songbirdremix>)

Rendering Tips

In POSER 5+...

In Poser, several settings will help to bring out the best in this bird set.

Under “Render Settings” (CTRL+Y) make sure you check “**Use Displacement Maps**” and (in some rare cases) the “**Remove Backfacing Polys**” boxes. In some poses, the wing morphs will expose backfacing polygons which tend to render black. Clicking the “Remove Backfacing Polys” fixes this.



In VUE...

Vue has trouble with back-facing polygons which tend to show-up in certain wing poses. The easiest and fast solution is to limit the amount of bending in the Forearm, Hand and Feather controllers.

The better (but much slower solution) is to in “Polygon Mesh Options”, bake the model. You might also click “Force double-sided baking” as well as playing with the Max smoothing angle and checking Dynamic Subdivison. Put Quality boost into the + area. Then bake it—“baking” will take hours on most computers.

Also the “Eye” material uses a Poser reflection map; since Vue has a built-in environment, it’s better to use the Vue one and cut down the reflection to 20-50% depending on light in the scene.

In DAZ Studio...

SmartProps in DAZ Studio.... Load a Puffin model and the “Bunch o’ Fish” prop. Move the move into the Puffin model’s HEAD section hierarchy tree. Now, look at the properties in the “Bunch o’ Fish” prop. Turn all scaling to 100% and X-Y-Z Trans to 0. The “Bunch o’ Fish” prop is now SmartPropped to the Puffin. (You may need to slightly adjust the props rotation or position to match the beak)

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