Birdhouse Hole Size Chart

Hole and floor by bird. TPWD: Texas Parks and Wildlife; OSU: Oregon State; TWRA: Tennessee.

BIRD	SOURCE	HOLE (IN)	HOLE (MM)	FLOOR (IN)
Eastern bluebird	TPWD	1 1/2	38	5 3/4 x 5 1/2
Western bluebird	OSU	1 1/2	38	5 x 5
Carolina chickadee	TPWD	1 1/8	29	4 x 4
Black-capped chickadee	OSU	1 to 1 1/8	25 to 29	4 x 5 1/2
Tufted titmouse	TPWD	1 1/4	32	4 x 4
House wren	TPWD	1 1/4	32	4 x 4
House wren	OSU	1	25	4 x 4
Carolina wren	TPWD	1 1/2	38	4 x 4
White-breasted nuthatch	OSU	1 1/4	32	4 x 4
Red-breasted nuthatch	OSU	1 1/4	32	4 x 4
Tree swallow	OSU	1 1/4	32	5 x 5
Violet-green swallow	OSU	1 1/4	32	5 x 5
Purple martin	OSU	2 1/4	57	6 x 6
Purple martin	TWRA	3 x 13/16 crescent	76 x 21	7 x up to 12
Downy woodpecker	OSU	1 1/4	32	6 x 6
Red-headed woodpecker	TPWD	2	51	6 x 6
Northern flicker	TPWD	2 1/2	64	7 x 7
Northern flicker	OSU	2 1/2	64	10 x 10
Screech owl	TPWD	3	76	8 x 8
Screech owl	OSU	3	76	8 x 8
American kestrel	OSU	3	76	8 x 8
Barn owl	TPWD	6	152	10 x 18
Wood duck	TPWD	4 x 3	102 x 76	10 x 18
Wood duck	OSU	4 x 3	102 x 76	12 x 12

BIRD	SOURCE	DEPTH (IN)	HOLE ABOVE FLOOR (IN)	HEIGHT (FT)
Eastern bluebird	TPWD	10	8 3/4 (to top)	5 or more
Western bluebird	OSU	8 to 12	6 to 10	4 to 10
Carolina chickadee	TPWD	8 to 10	6 to 8	4 to 15
Black-capped chickadee	OSU	8	7	6 to 15
Tufted titmouse	TPWD	8 to 10	6 to 8	6 to 15
House wren	TPWD	8 to 10	1 to 6	6 to 10
House wren	OSU	6 to 8	4 to 6	6 to 10
Carolina wren	TPWD	6 to 8	1 to 6	6 to 10
White-breasted nuthatch	OSU	8	7	5 to 15
Red-breasted nuthatch	OSU	8	7	5 to 15
Tree swallow	OSU	6 to 8	4 to 6	6 to 15
Violet-green swallow	OSU	6 to 8	4 to 6	6 to 15
Purple martin	OSU	6 to 8	4 to 6	10 to 20
Purple martin	TWRA	-	1/2 or less	12 to 20
Downy woodpecker	OSU	9	7	5 to 25
Red-headed woodpecker	TPWD	12	10	10 to 20
Northern flicker	TPWD	16 to 18	14 to 16	6 to 20
Northern flicker	OSU	16 to 18	14 to 16	5 to 25
Screech owl	TPWD	12 to 15	9 to 12	10 to 30
Screech owl	OSU	12 to 15	9 to 12	10 to 30
American kestrel	OSU	12 to 15	9 to 12	10 to 30
Barn owl	TPWD	15 to 18	4	12 to 18
Wood duck	TPWD	10 to 24	12 to 16	10 to 20
Wood duck	OSU	22 to 26	18	10 to 20

Depth is OSU's side height. TPWD's eastern bluebird hole height is to the top of the hole. Never put a perch under the hole; drill 1/4 in drain holes in the floor and vent holes near the top; use predator guards.

Sources: Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Oregon State University Extension, EC 1556; Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency; Iowa DNR. November 2026.