SEXING AND AGING
AMERICAN WOODCOCK

#1 Distinct dark band separates light-colored buffy tip from mottling below. Mottling symmetrical on both sides of feather.
#2 Same as above, slightly less mottling.
#3 Distinct dark band present, but narrower than #1 and #2.
#4 Much less mottling, but mottling is symmetrical. Dark band present.
#5 Less mottling, but symmetrical, dark band present.
#6 Feather appears more worn, dark band more faint but still separates buffy tip from symmetrical mottling below.

#7 Dark band less intact, mottling on right side extends into buffy tip. Mottling not symmetrical.
#8 Lack of distinct dark band. Mottling not symmetrical and it extends into buffy tip.
#9 Asymmetrical mottling, lack of distinct dark band.
#10 Asymmetrical mottling, lack of distinct dark band.
#11 Much less mottling and it is asymmetric. No dark band.
#12 Very little mottling. No dark band.

"It is unfortunate, perhaps, that no matter how intently one studies the hundred little dramas of the woods and meadows, one can never learn all of the salient facts about any one of them." Aldo Leopold


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SEX CRITERIA

If sum of the widths of the outer 3 primaries is between 12.4 and 12.6 mm you must determine sex from wing chord measurement. See diagram at top for location of wing chord measurement.

AGE - Adults with Emerging Primaries

Male - Outer 3 Primaries Still Emerging
Female - Outer 3 Primaries Still Emerging

AGE - Retained Juvenile Feathers (secondaries)

Immature Female
Juvenile Feathers 15-18 all juvenile feathers

Adult Female
Adult Female with Retained Juvenile Feathers 15 and 16

Feathers 15-18 all adult feathers

AGE SPECTRUM

Juvenile

Using Feathers 15-18

Adult

Using Feathers 15-18

AGE - Adults with Emerging Primaries

Male- Outer 3 Primaries Still Emerging
Female- Outer 3 Primaries Still Emerging

Measure width of primaries 2 cm from tip

Male = Sum of 3 feather widths ≤ 12.4 mm
Female = Sum of 3 feather widths ≥ 12.5 mm

Wing Chord Measurements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Accuracy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>≤ 125 mm</td>
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<td>125-127 mm</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>137-145 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>≥ 146 mm</td>
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