

# The Beak Boutique

## Nature's Custom Designs

Unlike humans, birds do not have hands or teeth to prepare their food, nor even they have strong jaws like other animals. But yes! They rely on their beaks, which are versatile yet powerful tools. They use their beaks for different purposes, like catching, grasping, and eating. Birds have diverse diet plates that include fruits, nuts, seeds, grass, insects, and fish, all consumed with their beaks. So let's have a glance at the different types of beaks used to catch their prey or eat food.



### Granivores — Seed and nut-eating

These birds, which feed on seeds and nuts, have a conical beak. This shape helps them to crack the hard shells of seeds. Birds like sparrows, finches, pigeons, and nuthatches consume seeds due to their strong and sharp conical beak.



### Insectivores — Insect-eating

Depending on their hunting style, these birds have different beak shapes. The thin and pointed beaks help in picking insects off surfaces, whereas short and wide beaks help in catching insects in mid-air, and chisel-like beaks for digging insects out of trees. Examples are warblers, flycatchers and woodpeckers.



### Nectar Sucking

Birds that primarily feed on nectar from flowers have long, narrow beaks to reach their feeding needs. Some examples are sunbird, New Holland honeyeater, and various honeyeaters.