

QSAR Quality Self-Assessment Rubric for Bird Photographs	Documenting Shot	Good Bird Photo	GreatBirdPic	Award Worthy
Technical Quality				
1. Focus				
The bird is not in focus	X			
Some of the bird is in focus		X		
All of the bird is in focus*			X	
All of the bird is in sharp focus*				X
2. Exposure				
The photograph is overexposed or underexposed	X			
The photograph is appropriately exposed		X	X	
The exposure of photograph helps tell a story				X
3. Lighting				
Most of the bird is too dark or too light	X			
The bird is appropriately illuminated		X	X	X
4. Color Contrast				
The colors are too weak or over-saturated	X			
The colors of the bird are representative of the species	X	X	X	X
5. Technical Flaws				
Imperfections such as noise, streaks, dust spots, or blemishes are distracting	X			
Imperfections such as noise, streaks, dust spots, or blemishes are present but not distracting		X		
No imperfections present			X	X
Content				
6. Cropping				
The bird is within the frame but takes up too much or too little space	X	X		
Parts of the bird are inadvertently cropped out of the frame	X	X		
The space the bird occupies is in balance with the rest of the image	X	X	X	
The space allocated to the bird and other elements helps tell a story				X
7. Composition				
The composition contains elements that distract	X	X		
The composition draws your eye to a specific part of the bird or action			X	
The photograph's composition helps tell a story				X

* Unless otherwise intended by the photographer

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8. Head Position				
The head is not facing the camera	X	X		
The head is facing the camera.			X	X
9. Body Visibility				
Parts of the head and/or body are obscured	X	X		
The bird is unobscured*			X	X
10. Setting				
The photograph of the bird was taken in a man-made environment	X			
The photograph was taken at a bird feeder	X	X		
The photograph was taken in a natural setting		X	X	
The photograph illustrates the bird's place in the environment				X
Artistic Quality				
11. Originality				
Similar to many photographs of that species	X	X	X	
Different from many photographs of that species			X	
The photograph is original, thought-provoking or particularly beautiful				X
12. The Story Within The Photograph				
The photography does not tell a story	X	X	X	
The photograph depicts action but falls short of telling a story		X	X	
The photograph tells a story				X
13. Impact				
The photograph is used to document an observation	X			
The photograph appeals to birders		X		
The photograph appeals to a broad audience			X	
The photograph creates an emotional impact - it elicits a "wow" reaction				X

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<p>Follows the Rules (of GreatBirdPics or Bird Photography Contest)</p>				
<p>14. Ethical Rules</p>				
<p>No photographs of dead birds</p>	X	X	X	X
<p>No photographs taken using unethical or inhumane methods</p>	X	X	X	X
<p>15. Technical Rules</p>				
<p>Photographs should be at least X pixels on one side</p>				X
<p>File size cannot exceed 32mb</p>	X	X	X	X
<p>Major elements of the photograph were not digitally added or removed</p>	X	X	X	X

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