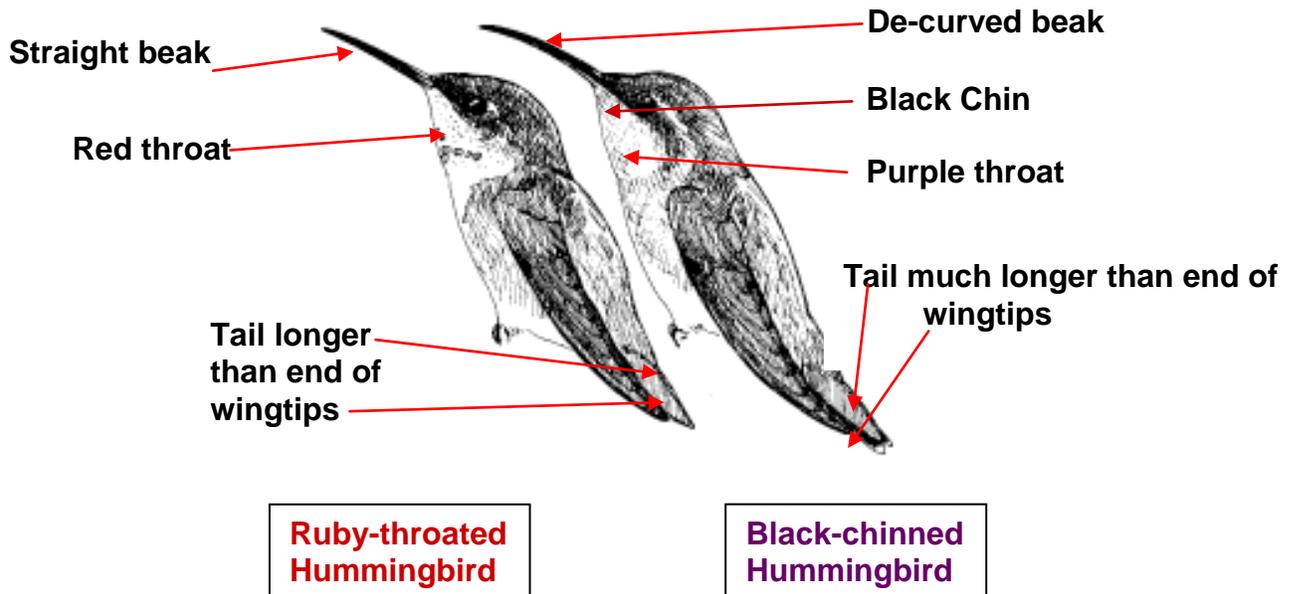


Identification Tips for **Ruby-throated** and **Black-chinned** Hummingbirds



- **Black-chinned** tend to be slightly larger than Ruby-throated of the same age and sex.

The size difference isn't great, so try to look at other key features.

- **Black-chinned** normally have longer wings and bills and shorter tails.

If the tail is much longer than the folded wing, think Ruby-throated.

- **Black-chinned** tend to have long and pronounced de-curved bills. The bill will normally curve downward along most of its length.

The bill of Ruby-throated will be relatively short and straight

- **Black-chinned** pump their tail constantly while hovering.

Ruby-throat's rarely pump their tail while hovering.

- **Black-chinned** tend to have lighter green backs without a lot of luster.

If the back is shimmering emerald green with a hint of blue luster, it is probably a Ruby-throated.

- **Black-chinned have long wings with distinctively rounded tips. When the bird is perched this is easily seen with good optics.**

The wing tips of Ruby-throated will be basically pointed and straight at the tip.

- **Female and immature Black-chinned tend to have drab gray color on their breast and belly.**

Ruby-throated females will be more whitish on the breast and belly compared to Black-chinned.

A special “thanks” to Bob Sargent of the Hummer Bird Study Group and Travis Audubon Society for identification tips.