

Ring-necked Dove

Streptopelia capicola

Kingdom	Animalia
Phylum	Chordata
Class	Aves
Order	Columbiformes
Family	Columbidae



Native to: Southern and Eastern Africa.

Status: Least Concern

The Ring-necked Dove is widespread and abundant in its range. They have many natural predators such as snakes, wild cats, birds of prey, crocodiles and jackals. Humans are also a threat because they hunt them for food and sport as well as capture them to sell as pets. Fortunately, they breed year round so their numbers are not severely impacted.

Appearance & Lifespan

The ring-necked dove is a medium sized bird, about 12 inches in length. It is monochromatic but can come in a variety of colors including white, silver, fawn, tangerine, and apricot. It has a black beak, black eyes, and a black stripe on the back of its neck. They have white tips on the end of their tail feathers.

The life expectancy of the ring-necked dove is 12 to 15 years, they are frequently kept as pets.





Behavior & Reproduction

The Ring-necked Dove is gentle and easy-going. When they walk on the ground, their heads bob with each small step. Ring-necked Doves rest in treetops during the night. They are recognized by their calls from a distance, they have a high pitched crooning sound that they repeat 10-30 times in a row.

Ring-necked doves are terrible at constructing nests and the eggs often fall out. They will build on a ledge or in a dense bush. Two white or cream coloured eggs are incubated for 15 days by both parents. The young leave the nest after 14-18 days. The adults can breed again a week later.

Ecology & Conservation

The Ring-necked Dove lives in woodlands, dry forests, and the open savanna in Africa.

Ring-necked Doves forage for food on the ground searching for seeds. They need grit in order to digest the seeds because they swallow their seeds whole. They also eat insects on occasion, especially flying ants.

At the zoo the Ringed-necked Doves are fed a seed mix, poultry grain, lettuce and carrot tops, oyster shell and poultry grit.

Did You Know?

1. This species is sometimes called a Barbary Dove, Cape Turtle Dove, or Ringed Turtle Dove.
2. They are good foster parents and will raise other species young.
3. Although they do enjoy spending time with other doves more than with humans, some Ring-necked Doves may be tamed and will coo to their owners.



<http://www.birdchannel.com/bird-species/profiles/ring-necked-dove-2.aspx>

<http://www.honolulu zoo.org/ringnecked or barbary dove.htm>

<http://www.biodiversityexplorer.org/birds/columbidae/streptopelia capicola.htm>

