

Northern Shoveler

Anas clypeata

Perhaps the most outwardly distinctive of the dabbling ducks, the Northern Shoveler inhabits wetlands across much of North America. Its elongated, spoon-shaped bill has comblike projections along its edges which filter out food from the water.

Keys to Identification

Adult Description

- Medium-sized duck.
- Very long bill, wider at the tip than at the base.
- Male with iridescent green head, white chest and rusty sides.

Male Description

Head dark glossy green. Bill black. Back black. Chest white. Flanks and belly chestnut-brown. Eyes yellow.

Female Description

Grayish-brown overall; some feathers have light edging with darker centers. Bill olive-green with yellowish base and edges. Eyes brown.

Measurements

Both Sexes

- Length - 17.3 - 20.1 inches
- Weight - 14.1 - 28.9 ounces

