

CROW-RAVEN-BLACK BIRD

Which one is it??

On our property we often see and hear large black birds and often wonder whether these are crows, ravens or both. Finally, we are taking a closer look at the various differences to determine when we see a crow and when we see a raven.

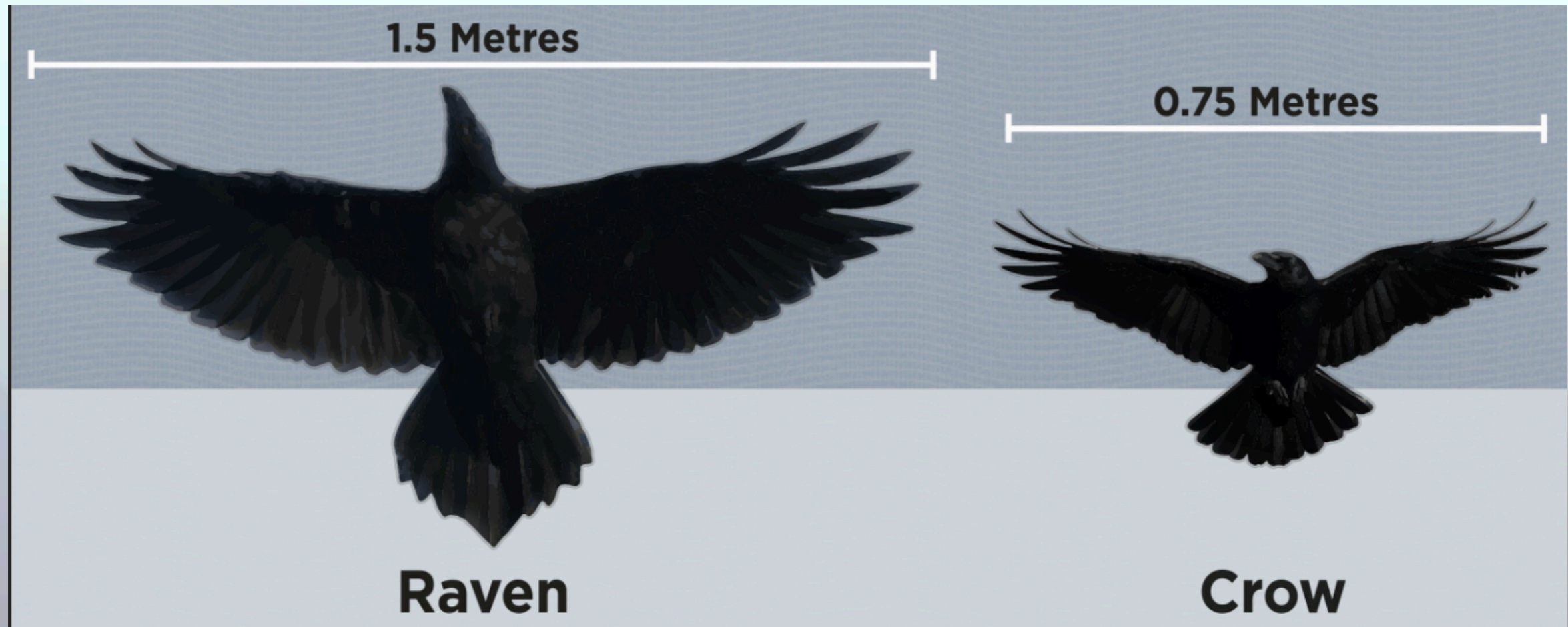
size

Raven -

very big - like a hawk

Crow

smaller - like a pigeon



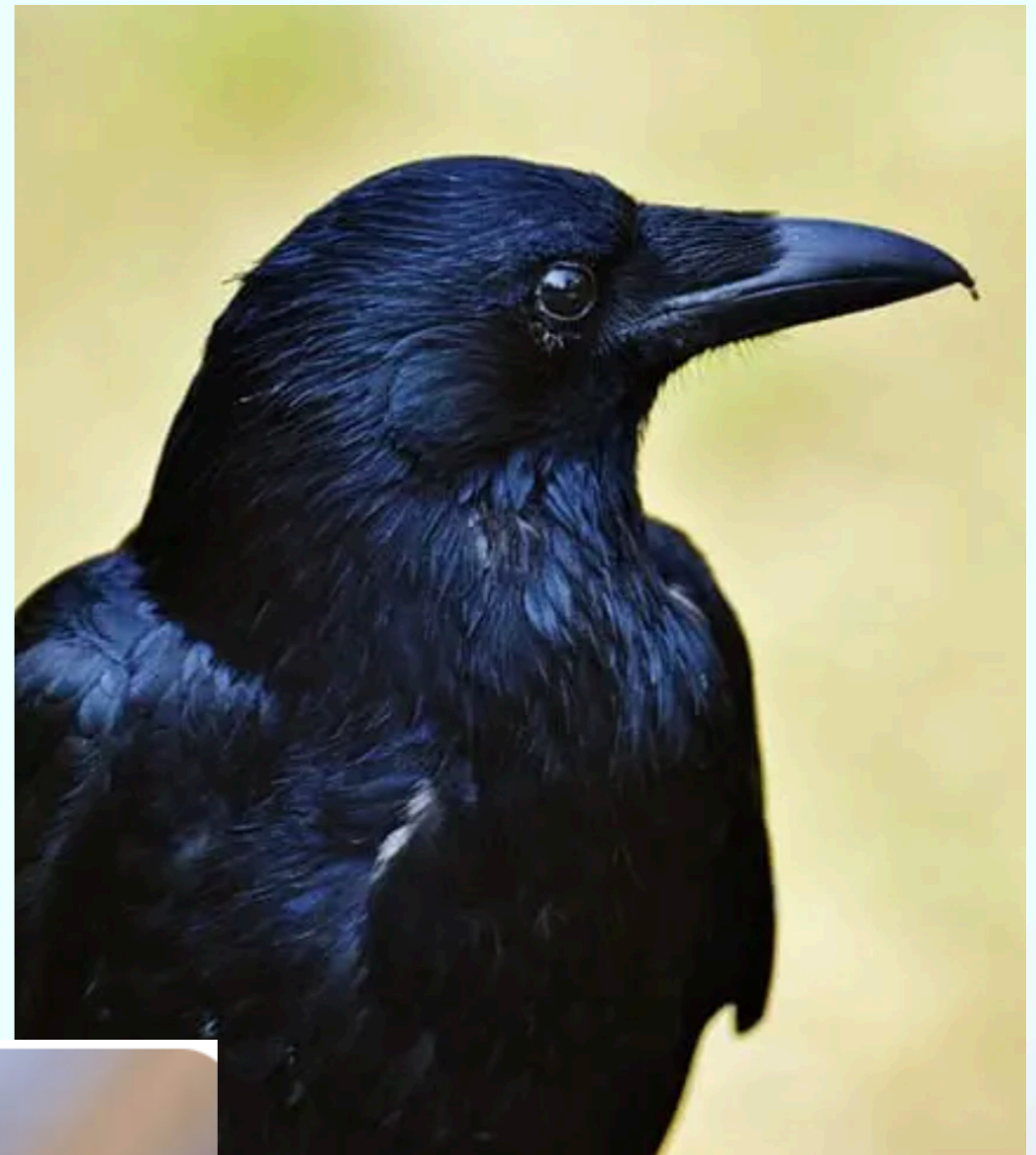
color

Raven -

glossy black with blue, green and purple shiney colors.

Crow

just black



beak

Raven -

large
heavy

good for picking meat off
a dead animal.

a noticeable curve on the
upper beak

Crow

small
straight
narrow



head

Raven -

round head

Crow

flat head



tail

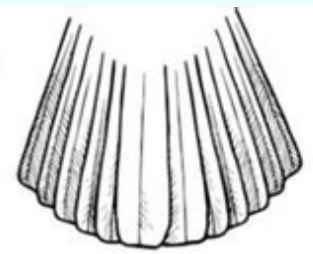
Raven -

wedge shaped -
some feather are
longer in the
middle

Crow

straight

Fan-shaped;
straight



Wedge-shaped;
triangle



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Common ravens can have a wingspan
of up to 4 feet and weigh up to 4
pounds.



American crows typically have a
wingspan of around 3 feet and
weigh about 1 pound.

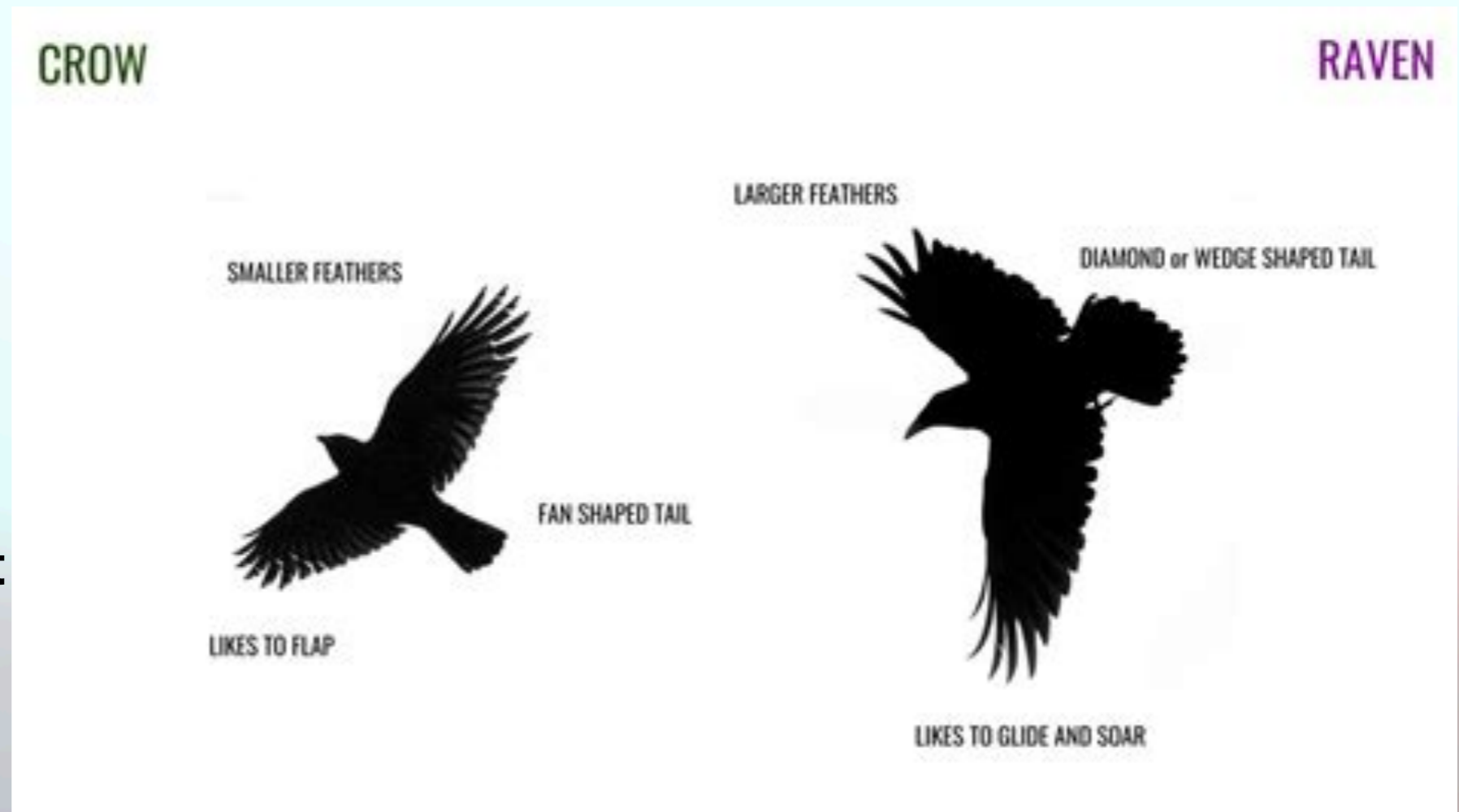
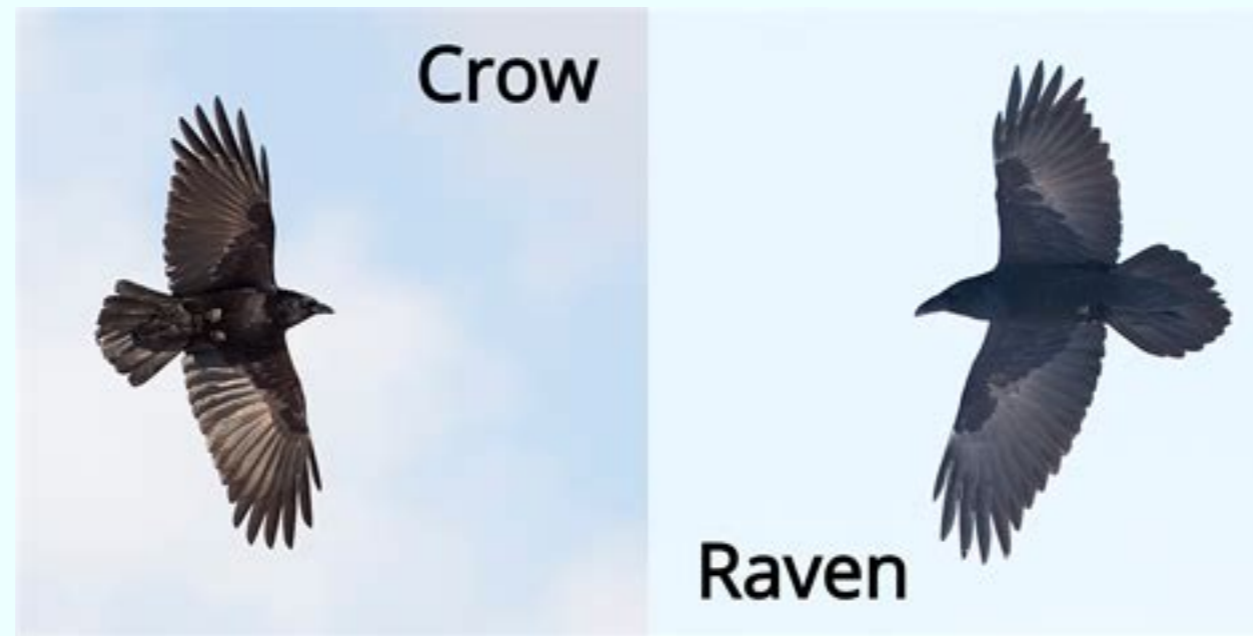
flying

Raven -

they soar and glide, sometimes they roll and tumble.

Crow

they flap more, with a regular beat to the flapping.



nests

Raven

cliffs
skyscrapers
tall buildings

Crows

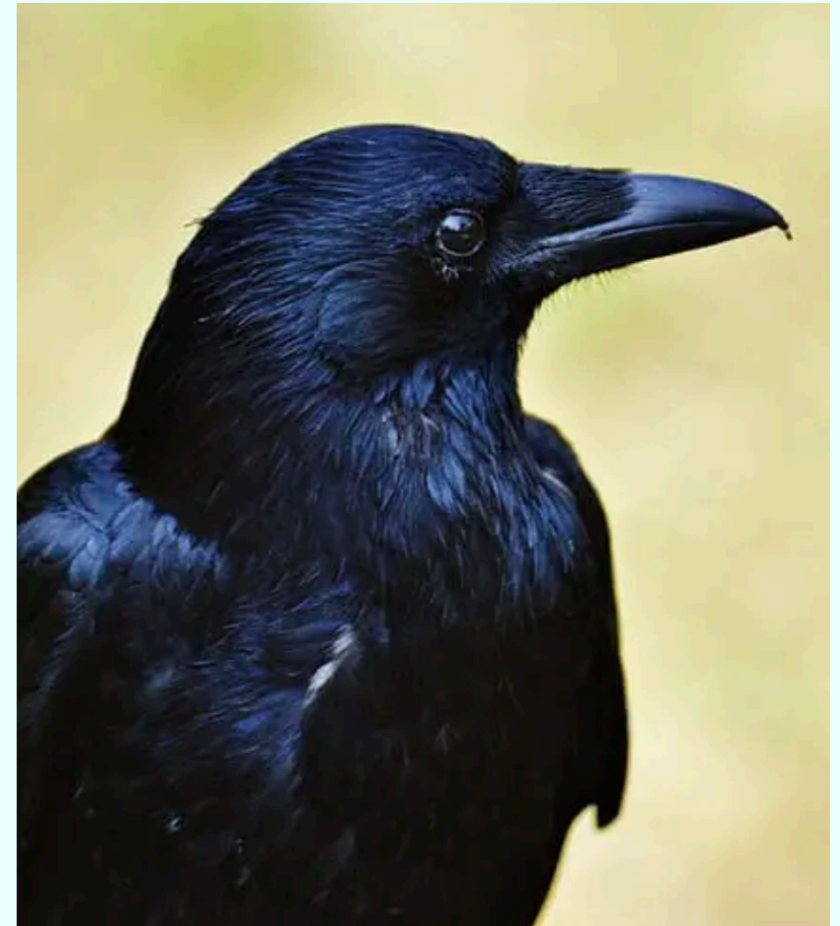
in hidden forks in trees



sound

Raven

deep
croaking
and shrill alarms

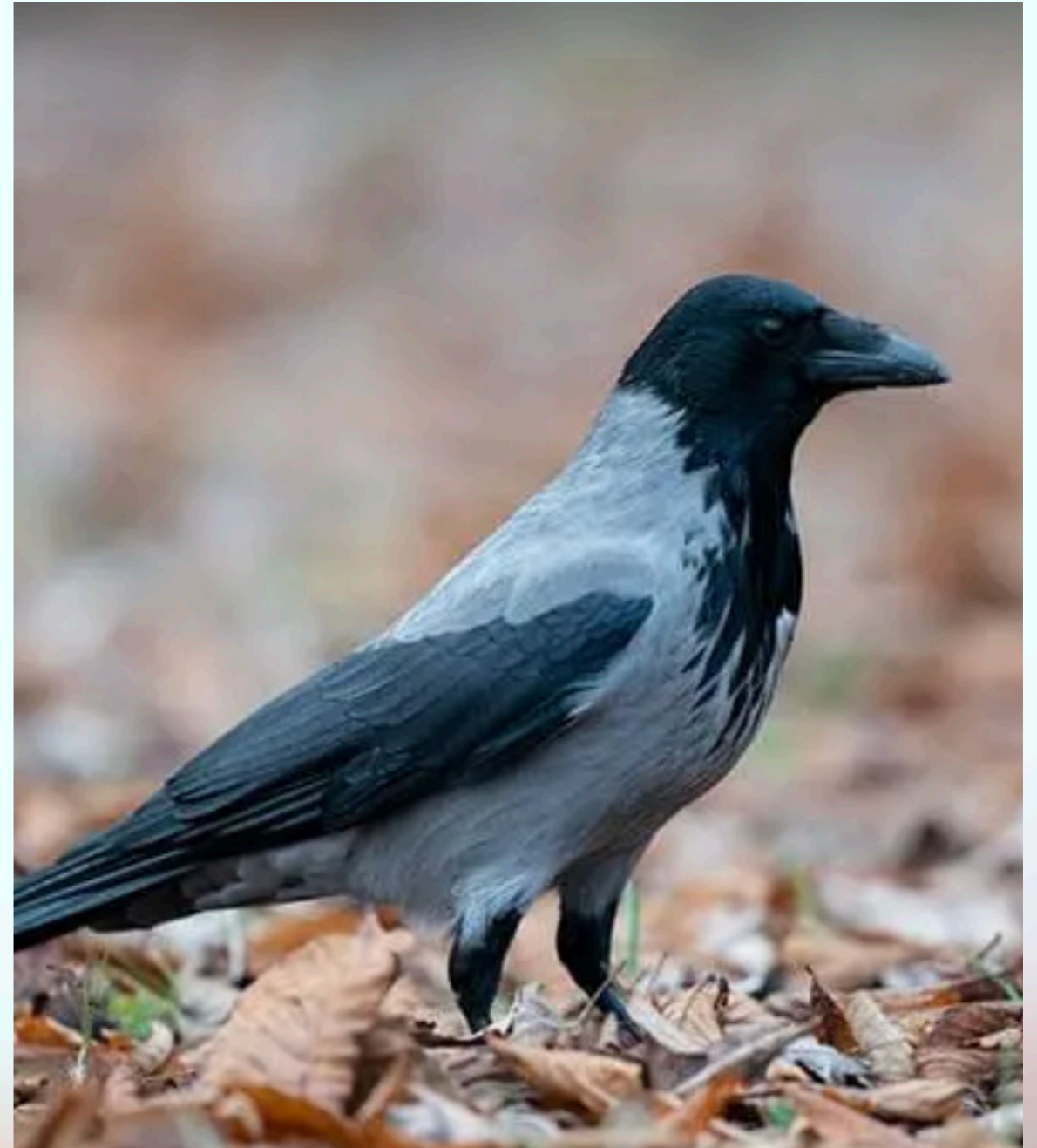


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVzK2zuukSQ>

sound

Crow

high pitched sound - caw



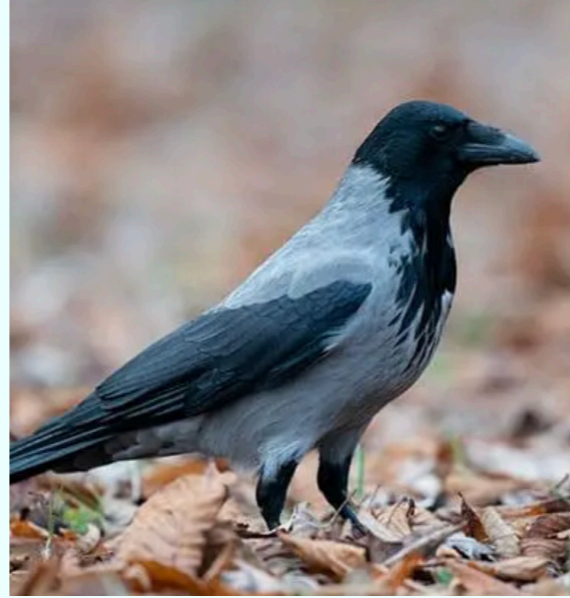
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVzK2zuukSQ>

walking

Raven -

confident

walks steady with 2 feet moving.



Crow

walks more like a chicken



how social are they?

Raven -

like to be alone or in pairs



Crow

like to be in small flocks
and like to roost together.



what do they eat?

Raven

dead animals

Crows

small animals

eggs

fish

grains

nuts

buds

berries

