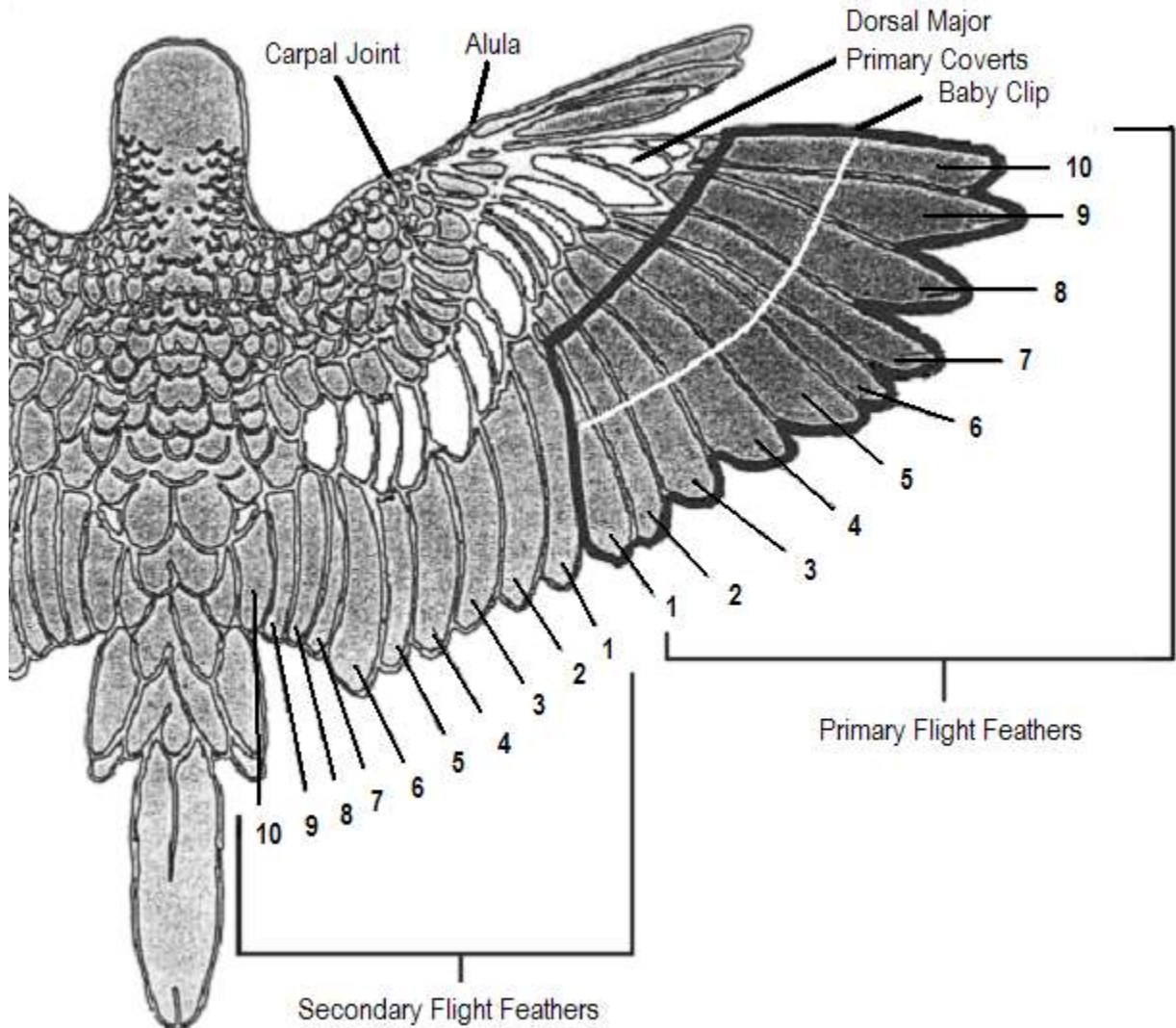




## THE BIRD CLINIC VETERINARY CORPORATION

### RECOMMENDED SAFE METHOD FOR WING CLIPPING



**ONLY** clip the FIRST five to ten (dependent on species) Primary Flight Feathers on BOTH wings to a level  $\frac{1}{4}$  " longer than the end of the Dorsal Major Primary Coverts. This method protects the newly erupting primary blood feathers. **NEVER, EVER** cut or clip any Major Primary Coverts or Secondary Flight Feathers. The secondary flight feathers are the gliding feathers, so cutting these severely hinders the bird's ability to glide to break its fall and predisposes the bird to blood feather injuries or bone fractures. African species and young, heavy-bodied species (i.e., Macaws) should have a "baby clip" (clip primary flights at only 40-60% of exposed length) to further protect them from falls and injury

*This publication is part of The BIRD C News™ series to help educate bird owners. Produced by The BIRD Clinic Veterinary Corporation 200 S. Tustin St., Suite E, Orange, CA 92866 714-633-2910. [www.thebirdclinic.com](http://www.thebirdclinic.com) May be reproduced with written permission only.*

*Revised 04/2017*