

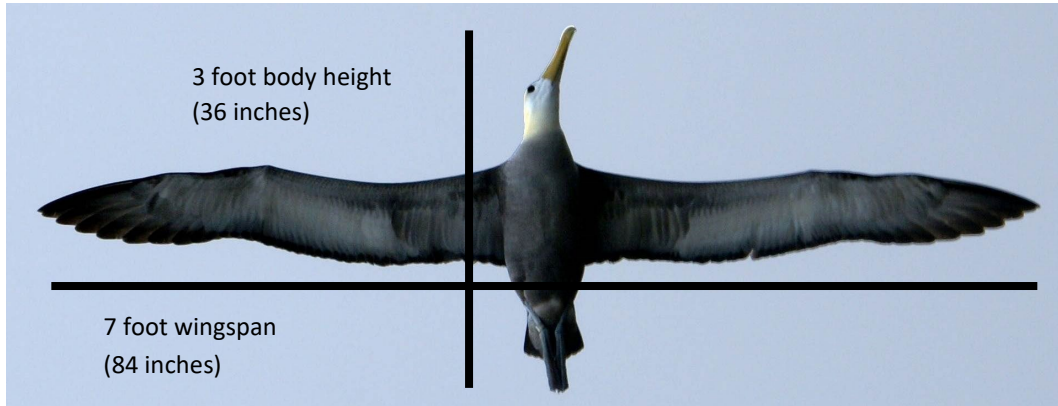
NAME: _____

What's your Albatross wingspan?

ALASKA

IF YOU WERE AN ALBATROSS, HOW LONG WOULD YOUR WINGS BE?

One way to find out is to do some math and calculate the ratio of wingspan to body. A ratio is a comparison of measurements. A short-tailed albatross has a 7 foot (84 inches) wingspan, and a 3 foot (36 inches) body. Let's use that ratio to find out how big our wings would be if we were an albatross!



FIRST

Use the measuring tape to find out how tall you are.

MY HEIGHT: _____

NEXT

Figure out your wingspan, by using the equation to the right, or use the chart below.

If you are this tall...	Then your wingspan is...
24 inches	56 inches
30 inches	70 inches
36 inches	84 inches
42 inches	98 inches
48 inches	112 inches
54 inches	126 inches
60 inches	140 inches
66 inches	154 inches

SHOW YOUR WORK:

$$(84 \times h) \div 36 = w$$

h=your height (in inches)

w=your wingspan (in inches)

MY ALBATROSS WINGSPAN: _____ inches



Audubon

ALASKA

BIRD
FACT
SHEET

Short-tailed Albatross

The Short-tailed Albatross lives in the North Pacific Ocean. This albatross nest and raise their chicks primarily on islands in Japan. But the adults forage for food off the U.S. west coast, along the Aleutian Islands and Gulf of Alaska, and as far north as the Bering Sea off Russia and Alaska. The scientific name for the Short-tailed Albatross is *Phoebastria albatrus*. With a 7 foot wingspan, they are expert flyers!

SHORT-TAILED FACTS

- Short-tailed Albatrosses are birds of the open ocean. They fly thousands of miles across the waves in search of food, and only come back to land when they are ready to nest.



Photo: USFWS

- There are only about 4,200 Short-tailed Albatross in the world, and they are protected by the Endangered Species Act. But their population is increasing, a good sign for conservation!
- Albatross live long lives. Short-tailed Albatrosses become fully adult when they are 12 years old. These birds can live to be 45 years old! They mate for life and only raise one chick each year.
- Albatross only meet up with their mates during the breeding season. When they reunite, they will

do a dance that includes wing lifts, beak tosses, and braying calls. The dance helps re-affirm the close bond they share as a mated pair.

- Short-tailed Albatross eat squid, crabs, and fish that are found at the surface of the ocean. They use their incredible sense of smell, and their long-distance flights, to find food.

The dots on the map represent the locations of 99 individual Short-tailed Albatross that were tracked by scientists. Credit: Yamashina Institute for Ornithology and Oregon State University.

