


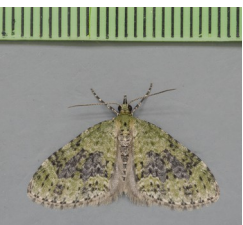






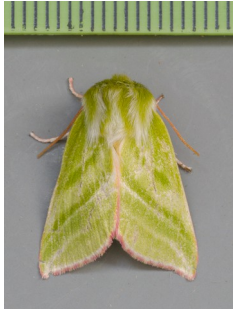
MOTHS FOR BEGINNERS : PART 1

COMMON MACROMOTHS BY WING COLOUR











Common species in the Upper Thames area are illustrated, along with the months in which they fly. All moths are shown in their resting positions unless otherwise stated. Again, moths are shown in the order found in the Field Guides.



















1. GREEN

<p><u>Emeralds</u></p>	 <p>Common Emerald (late June-late July)</p>	 <p>Small Emerald (late June-early Aug)</p>	 <p>Light Emerald (late May-early Aug)</p>	
<p><u>Carpets and allies</u> Additionally May Highflyer and July Highflyer are variably greenish, grey or brownish</p>	 <p>Red-green Carpet (Sept-Nov)</p>	 <p>Green Carpet (May-mid July and Aug-earlySept)</p>	 <p>Yellow-barred Brindle (May-June and late July-early Sept)</p>	
<p><u>Pugs</u></p>	 <p>V-Pug (May-June and mid July-late Aug)</p>	 <p>Green Pug (June-early Aug)</p>		
<p><u>Hawkmoths</u></p>	 <p>Lime Hawk-moth (May-early July)</p>			

<p><u>Noctuids</u> Additionally Green-brindled Crescent (Sept-Nov) has brownish wings sprinkled with green scales</p>	 <p>Green Arches (June-July)</p>	 <p>Merveille du Jour (Sept-Oct)</p>	 <p>Brindled Green (Aug-mid Oct)</p>	 <p>Green Silver- lines (May-July)</p>
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2. YELLOW and ORANGE (including Underwings)

<p><u>Swifts</u></p>	 <p>Ghost Moth (female) (June-early Aug)</p>	 <p>Orange Swift (male; female duller) (late June- early Sept)</p>		
<p><u>Eggars</u></p>	 <p>Lackey (July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Oak Eggar (female) (July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Drinker (female) (July-Aug)</p>	
<p><u>Hook-tips</u></p>	 <p>Oak Hook-tip (May-June and late July-mid Sept)</p>	 <p>Pebble Hook-tip (Apr-June and mid July-early Sept)</p>		
<p><u>Carpets and allies</u></p>	 <p>Yellow Shell (June-Aug)</p>	 <p>Barred Straw (late May-late Aug)</p>	 <p>Common Marbled Carpet (orange banded form) (May-June and late Aug-early Oct)</p>	

	 <p>Barred Yellow (June-early Aug)</p>	 <p>Sandy Carpet (June-July)</p>	 <p>Small Yellow Wave (late May-July)</p>	
	 <p>Brimstone Moth (April-Oct)</p>	 <p>Bordered Beauty (July-Sept)</p>	 <p>Speckled Yellow (mid-May-late June)</p>	
<u>Thorns, Umbers and allies</u>	 <p>Canary-shouldered Thorn (late July-mid Oct)</p>	 <p>Dusky Thorn (late July-early Oct)</p>	 <p>August Thorn (mid-Aug-late Sept)</p>	 <p>Early Thorn (mid Feb-May and July-Sept)</p>
	 <p>Purple Thorn (2nd generation: July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Feathered Thorn (mid Sept-early Dec)</p>	 <p>Swallow-tailed Moth (late June-mid Aug)</p>	 <p>Scarce UMBER (Oct-Dec)</p>
<u>Footmen, Ermines and allies</u>	 <p>Orange Footman (late May-June)</p>	 <p>Dingy Footman (July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Buff Footman (July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Buff Ermine (mid May-July)</p>

Yellow Underwings



Typical underwing colour



Large Yellow Underwing (June-Oct)



Lesser Yellow Underwing (June- Sept)



Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (July-Sept)



Lesser Broad-bordered Yellow Underwing (late July-early Sept)



Least Yellow Underwing (July-Aug)

Other Underwings



Copper Underwing* (late July-early Oct)



Straw Underwing (late July-Aug)



Sallows



Centre-barred Sallow (Aug-Sept)



Orange Sallow (Aug-early Oct)






Barred Sallow (Sept-early Nov)



Pink-barred Sallow (Sept-Oct)

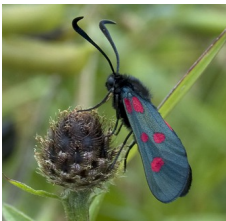











Sallow (Sept-Oct)

<u>Other Noctuids</u>	 <p>Frosted Orange (late Aug-Oct)</p>	 <p>Burnished Brass (June-July and Aug-Sept)</p>	 <p>Straw Dot (June-July and Aug-Sept)</p>	
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*There are two species of Copper Underwing which may be separated by the extent of coppery colour on the underwings (see Field Guide).

3. PINK and RED (mostly as conspicuous bands or spots)











<u>Burnets</u>	 <p>Five-spot Burnet* (July-early Aug)</p>	 <p>Six-spot Burnet (late June-Aug)</p>		
<u>Carpets and allies</u>	 <p>Flame Carpet (May-June and late July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Red Twin-spot Carpet** (mid Apr-June and late July-Aug)</p>		
<u>Thorns, Umbers and allies</u>	 <p>Purple Thorn (1st generation: Apr-May)</p>	 <p>Barred Red (mid June-early Aug)</p>		
<u>Hawkmoths, Tigers and allies</u>	 <p>Elephant Hawkmoth (May-early Aug)</p>	 <p>Ruby Tiger (mid Apr-June and mid July-early Sept)</p>	 <p>Scarlet Tiger (June-July)</p>	 <p>Cinnabar (mid May-early Aug)</p>

<u>Noctuids</u>	 <p>Red Underwing (early Aug-Oct)</p>	 <p>Herald (Aug-Nov and March-June)</p>		
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*There are two very similar species - the Five-spot Burnet and the more common Narrow-bordered Five-spot Burnet (see Field Guide).

**It is difficult to distinguish the Red Twin-spot Carpet from the red form of the Dark-barred Twin-spot Carpet, now rare in our region.

4. WHITE

<u>Swifts</u>	 <p>Ghost Moth (male: June-early Aug)</p>			
<u>Waves, Carpets and allies</u> Several others have a whitish or pale cream ground colour, overlaid with bands of darker colours (see Field Guide)	 <p>Common White Wave (May-June and late July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Common Wave (May-early Sept)</p>	 <p>White-pinion Spotted (May-early July)</p>	 <p>Clouded Silver (May-early July)</p>
<u>Tussocks</u>	 <p>Brown-tail (July-Aug)</p>	 <p>Yellow-tail (July-Aug) with coloured 'tail' seen from below</p>		
	 <p>White Satin Moth (July-Aug)</p>			

Ermines and allies



White Ermine
(mid May-late
July)



Muslin Moth
(female May-early
June)

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