

Papers in the Biological Sciences
Grouse and Quails of North America, by Paul
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Name Derivations

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Name Derivations

- Alectoris*—from Latin *alector* (Greek *alectryōn*): cock
 graeca—from Latin *Graecus*: of Greece
 chukar—apparently onomatopoeic
- Bonasa*—from Latin *bonasum*: a bison (the drumming of the male resembling the bellowing of a bull); perhaps from Latin *bonus*: good, and *assum*: roast
 umbellus—from Latin, meaning an umbrella (referring to the neck-tufts)
- Callipepla*—from Greek *kalos*: beautiful, and *peplos*: coat
 californica—of California
 douglasii—after David Douglas, Scottish explorer
 gambelii—after William Gambel, American ornithologist
 squamata—from Latin, meaning scale-like
- Canachites*—from Greek *kanacheō*: to make a noise, with formative suffix *-ites*
- Centrocerus*—from Greek *kentron*: a spine, and *kerkos*: tail
 urophasianus—from Greek *oura*: tail, and *phasianos*: pheasant
- Colinus*—Latinized from the Spanish word *colín*, derived from Aztec language Nahuatl, in which *zolin* means quail
 virginianus—of Virginia
 cristatus—from Latin, meaning crested
 leucopogon—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *pōgōn*: beard

- nigrogularis*—from Latin *niger*: dark or black, *gula*: throat, and suffix *-aris*
- Cyrtonyx*—from Greek *kyrtos*: bent or curved, and *onyx*: nail or claw (referring to the long and curved claws)
- montezumae*—derived from the name of the Aztec warrior and emperor, Montezuma II
- ocellatus*—from Latin, meaning spotted as with little eyes
- Dactylortyx*—from Greek *daktylos*: a finger or toe, and *ortyx*: a quail (referring to the long toes)
- thoracicus*—from Greek *thōrax*: chest, with suffix *-icus*
- Dendragapus*—from Greek *dendron*: a tree, and *agapē*: love
- obscurus*—from Latin, meaning dusky
- fuliginosus*—from Latin, meaning sooty
- canadensis*—of Canada
- Dendrortyx*—from Greek *dendron*: a tree, and *ortyx*: a quail
- barbatus*—from Latin, meaning bearded
- leucophrys*—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *ophrys*: brow
- macroura*—from Greek *makros*: long or large, and *oura*: tail
- Galliformes—from Latin *gallus*: a cock, and *forma*: appearance
- gallinaceous—from Latin *gallina*: a hen, and adjective suffix *-aceus*, meaning pertaining to
- grouse—probably from French *greoche*, *greiche* and *griais*, meaning spotted bird, and used in England as “grouse” for the red grouse before being applied in North America for grouse in general
- Lagopus*—from Greek *lagōs*: a hare, and *pous*: a foot, meaning hare-footed (referring to the similarity between the feathered toes and the densely haired feet of rabbits)
- leucurus*—from Greek *leukos*: white, and *oura*: tail
- mutus*—from Latin *mutatus*: change or alteration (referring to the various plumages)
- Lophortyx*—from Greek *lophos*: a crest, and *ortyx*: a quail
- Odontophorinae—from Greek *odous*, *odontos*: tooth, *phoros*: bearing, and subfamilial suffix *-inae*
- Odontophorus*—from Greek *odous*, *odontos*: tooth, and *phoros*: bearing (referring to the serrated maxilla)
- guttatus*—from Latin, meaning spotted or speckled
- Oreortyx*—from Greek *oros*: mountain, and *ortyx*: quail
- partridge—from Middle English *pertriche*, and applied originally to the gray partridge. Also Scottish variants of *patrick*, *paitrick*, and *pertrick*
- Pedioecetes*—from Greek *pedion*: a plain, and *oiketēs*: an inhabitant
- phasianellus*—diminutive of Latin *phasianus*: a pheasant

Perdix—from Latin, meaning partridge or quail

Phasianidae—from Latin *phasianus* (Greek *phasianos*): pheasant, and familial suffix *-idae*

pheasant—from Middle English *fesaunt* or *fesaun*, originally from Latin *phasianus*. Applied to the common pheasant, introduced into Europe from the area of the River Phasis (now Rioni) in Colchis, which flows into the Black Sea.

Philortyx—from Greek *philos*: loving, and *ortyx*: a quail

ptarmigan—from Gaelic *tārmachan*; applied originally to the rock ptarmigan quail—from Old French *quaille* (modern French *caille*), and originally applied to the migratory quail (*Coturnix*)

Rhynchortyx—from Greek *rhynchos*: beak, and *ortyx*: a quail (referring to the large and strong beak)

cinctus—from Latin, meaning banded

Tetraoninae—from Greek *tetraōn*: a pheasant, and subfamilial suffix *-inae*

turkey—of uncertain origin, but first applied to peafowl (*Pavo*), guinea-fowl (*Numida*), or capercaillie (*Tetrao*) in England before being used for the New World turkey

Tympanuchus—from Greek *tympanon*: a drum, and *echō*: to have or hold
cupido—from Latin *Cupid* (referring to the “Cupid’s wings” on the neck)

pallidicinctus—from Latin *pallidus*: pale, and *cinctus*: banded

pinnatus—from Latin, meaning plumed