

Glossary of Falconers' Terms

ACCIPITER	The Latin name for genus of raptors with short, broad wings and narrow tails.
ASPERGILLOSIS	A fungus disease of the respiratory system in falcons, generally fatal.
BATE	An abortive attempt to fly off the firs or perch when a bird is restrained by a leash.
BIND	To seize quarry with the feet and hold it, either on the ground or in the air.
BLOCK	A block of wood, usually inverted, used as a perch for falcons.
BRACES	The leather straps used to open or close a hood.
BUMBLEFOOT	A bacterial infection of the foot peculiar to falcons.
BUTEO	The Latin name for a genus of raptors with broad wings and tails, the true buzzard of the raptor world.
CASTING	The indigestible portions of the last meal of a raptorial bird, usually bones and feathers, that are formed into a compact pellet and disgorged through the mouth.
COCCIDIOSIS	A bacteria infection causing inflamed intestine and specks of blood in the mutes, though caused by dietary deficiency.
CRAMP	Dietary deficiency caused muscular spasms in "downy" birds that are often severe enough to break bones.
CREANCE	A long strong cord or line used to secure a hawk during its first training flights.
EYASS	The name applied to a young raptor while still in the nest also, a trained raptor of any age that was obtained as a nestling.
EYRIE	The nest or nesting ledge of any of the raptors.
FALCON	The Latin name for a genus of raptors with long narrow wings and tails, also, referred to as the female of the species.
FROUNCE	(Trichomoniasis) A cheesy, yellowish growth in the mouth and through caused by a protozoan parasite.
HACK	A state of complete liberty as in returning a bird to the wild.
HAGGARD	The name applied to an adult raptor either trapped or wild.
HOOD	The leather cap used to cover the head and eyes of a hawk.
IMPING	A method of repairing broken feathers in raptors.
JESSES	Leather straps permanently attached to the legs of trained raptors.
LEASH	Leather thong and swivel attached to jesses securing bird to perch.
LURE	An artificial quarry used to train, control, or retrieve raptors.

MANTLE	The spreading of wings and tail over the food or quarry.
MEW	A building or room in which hawks are kept.
MUTES	The excrement of a raptor.
PASSAGER	A flighted raptor in its first year either trapped or wild, hence an immature which is commonly referred to as a passage bird.
QUARRY	Any bird or other animal a trained raptor may pursue.
ROUSE	When a bird erects all the body feathers and then shakes itself.
SHOCK MARKS	Weak lines on feathers caused by no food or other stress which permits feathers to break rather easily.
STOOP	Head-first drive of a raptor from above.
TIERCEL	The male of any raptor.
WAIT ON	To fly, circle, or hover above the falconer for some time.