

Basic Falconry Terms

Accipiter*	Genus of raptor, the “short winged hawk” ie Goshawks.
Bate*	An attempt to fly from fist or perch when secured.
Bind	To grab quarry and hold it.
Brancher	A young hawk (raptor) that is mostly feathered but not yet capable of flight
Buteo*	Genus of raptor, the “broad winged hawk” ie redtailed hawk.
Buzzard*	Any of the European species of Buteo, especially the common buzzard (Buteo buteo).
Cadge	A portable hawk perch capable of carrying multiple birds.
Cadger	The person who carries the cadge.
Cast*	The regurgitation of indigestible fur and bones, a normal daily act; two or more raptors flown together; to physically hold a raptor to prevent movement.
Creance	Long training cord or leash.
Crop*	Vascular sac where food is first digested.
Enter	When a trained raptor first captures a type of quarry.
Eyas	A raptor taken from nest before fledgling.
Eyrie	A raptor nest site.
Falcon*	A general term to call falcons. USED ON ITS OWN, THIS MEANS FEMALE PEREGRINE.
Falconry****	A mental disorder disguised as an engrossing hobby or sport. It is the art or sport of hunting with trained raptors.
Feak	When the bird cleans his beak.
Fist*	The falconer’s gloved hand (traditionally the left).
Fly*	To hunt with a trained raptor.
Gauntlet*	A long heavy leather glove that enables a falconer to hold or carry a raptor while protected from its talons.
Glove	Synonymous with gauntlet. The term is more commonly used by modern-day falconers.
Hack	Leaving a bird free for a time to develop flying skills.
Haggard*	A raptor that is over 1 year old when it was taken from wild, or a wild raptor that is over 1 year old.

Hawking*	Synonymous with falconry. The terms are interchangeable, Bth refer to hunting with a trained raptor.
Imping	A method of repairing broken feathers.
Imprint	The psychological pairing of an infant to its preceived parent.
Intermewed	A raptor that has molted in captivity.
Jesses	Leather straps to secure the birds by the legs.
Manning*	The process of taming a raptor.
Mantle*	To hide food from onlookers by covering with wings.
Mews*	Housing for raptors.
Passage*	A raptor that was taken from the wild in the fall of its first year, or a wild raptor that has not yet molted into its adult plumage.
Penned-hard	Fully grown feathers.
Pitch	Height a falcon takes overhead usually expressed in feet.
Preen	Straighting feathers with the beak-grooming.
Quarry*	Game they are set upon.
Rouse	Shaking feathers out as a grooming action.
Sharp*	Hungry and ready for the hunt.
Slip*	To release the raptor after quarry.
Stoop	Rapid descent from altitude, usually in pursuit of quarry.
Tiercel*	Male raptor. USED ON ITS OWN, THIS MEANS THE MALE PERIGRINE.
Tiring	Tough piece of meat to pull and eat tediously.
Weather*	To put a bird outside to enjoy the weather; secured.
Wait-on*	The falcon maintaining pitch over the falconer.
Warble*	An overhead wing stretch.
Yarak*	State of mind in accipiters and hawks eager to hunt; An aggressive psychological state especially characteristic of accipiters.

* Terms that I think you should really know

*** Funny definition found online

THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE TERMS. MANY OF THEM HAVE MULTIPLE DEFINITIONS AND IT IS BASED ON THE COUNTRY THE SPORT IS PRACTICED IN.

**The Laws of Ownership
as detailed in the Boke of St. Albans**

King	Gyr Falcon (male or female)
Prince	Peregrine Falcon
Duke	Rock falcon (subspecies of peregrine)
Earl	Tiercel Peregrine Falcon (male)
Baron	Bastarde Hawk(common hawk)
Knight	Saker
Squire	Lanner
Lady	Female Merlin
Yeoman	Goshawk or Hobby
Priest	Female Sparrowhawk
Holy water clerk	Male Sparrowhawk
Knave	Kestral
Servants	Kestral
Children	Kestral

Note: That everyone has a bird. Some have sex specific birds. In these animals females are one third larger then the male. Some name of these birds have changed over the years.