

Male or Female Turkey?

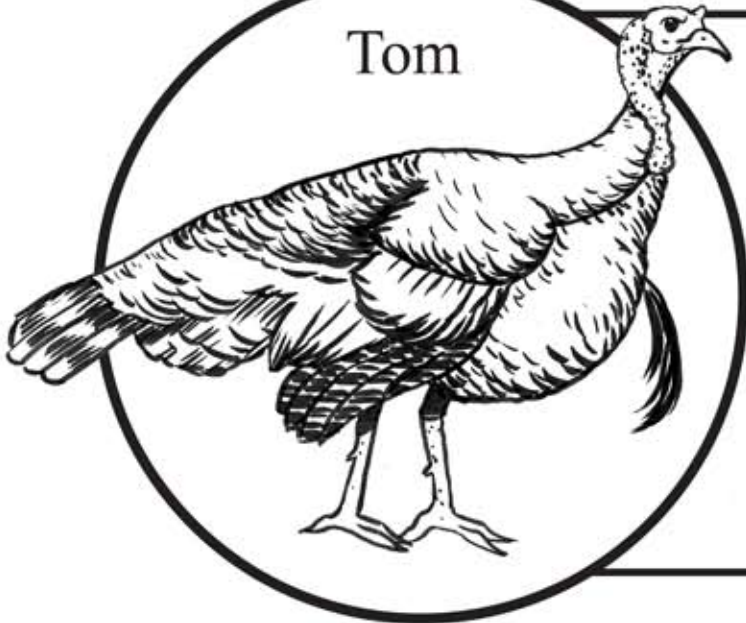
Male turkeys are called toms or gobblers.

Female turkeys are called hens.

Young males are called jakes.



Tom



Toms have brightly colored feathers to attract females.

Toms have red, blue or white heads.

Toms have long clusters of hair that grow from their chest called beards.

Male turkeys have spurs on the back of their legs that they use for fighting.

Tom turkeys often fan their tails to attract hens.

Hens have brown or gray feathers to help them hide.

Hens have grayish-blue heads.

Most female turkeys do not have beards.

Hens do not have spurs on their legs.

Hens do not fan their tails.

Hen



Male turkeys are also larger than females.

In most states, it is illegal to shoot a hen or jake turkey.