

Symbolism of the Pheasant

by Avia Venefica - Wednesday, March 19, 2008

<https://www.symbolic-meanings.com/2008/03/19/symbolism-of-the-pheasant/>

Some attributes and [symbolism of the pheasant](#) include:

- [Solar/Sun/Energy](#)
- Refinement
- Sexuality
- Nobility
- Virtue

The pheasant is a native bird of China where it is revered for its beauty, and thought of as a solar animal. Indeed, the Golden pheasant's body is a shock of flaming red; its head a ruddy yellow. So intense are these solar colors that there is some debate as to whether or not the Golden pheasant (image shown right) may be **linked to the legendary phoenix**.

Whatever the case, the pheasant represents [yang energy](#) and so it carries attributes of fire, life, summer, [male](#), and action to name a few.

Also in China the pheasant is a **symbol of nobility**, and is associated with high-rank in political office and civil service.

In Japan the pheasant is a divine messenger for Amaterasu, the great sun goddess. Amaterasu is a focal point of the Shinto pantheon. She is the ruler of the heavens, so her association with the pheasant made this creature an **important symbol of power**, abundance and promise.

[Native American](#) lore considered the pheasant a **symbol of protection** and concealment. Presumably because regardless of their airborne capabilities, they prefer most of their time hunkered down in tall grass, concealed from sight. Further, unlike most [winged creatures](#), the pheasant nests on the ground rather than trees.

Pheasants are considered **symbols of sexuality** because of the amazingly attractive [male](#). Furthermore,

the male's appearance is quite effective, and often wins him a harem of females.

Lastly, the pheasant is a cousin of the [peacock](#), and its symbolic attributes are similar to those of the [peacock which can be found here](#).

Pheasants make excellent [animal totems](#) for many reasons. Their energy stimulates sexuality, encourages creativity, and enhances energy. I've gone into more detail about the [symbolism of the pheasant](#) (including the types of people who attract pheasants as an [animal air totem](#)) [here](#).

Post Script: Thank you Petra for this magnificent photo!