GREY PATRIDGE (*Perdix perdix*)

**IDENTIFICATION**
28-30 cm. Grey upperparts, spotted white and brown; orange-brown face; grey flanks, with chestnut bars; grey breast; velly with a large horseshoe-shaped patch in **male**, small or without patch in **female**.

**SEXING**
**Male** with bright orange face; belly with a broad and dark horseshoe-shaped patch; scapulars and median coverts often with broad and rufous markings on the inner web. **Female** with dull orange face; belly with a small or absent horseshoe-shaped patch; scapulars and median coverts dark brown, without chestnut, with distinct and buff bars, edged black. **Juveniles** cannot be sexed using plumage pattern.

**AGEING**
3 age groups can be recognized:
- **Juvenile** without orange face; underparts brown-yellowish with pale streaks; flanks pale streaked; dark bill.
- **1st year autumn/2nd year spring** similar to **adults**, but with moult limit between the 2 outermost unmoulted **juvenile** primaries and their primary coverts, more eroded and ochre than the neighboring feathers.
- **Adult** with orange face; grey underparts; flanks with chestnut bars; pale bill; all primaries and primary coverts with the same generation, without moult limits.

**SIMILAR SPECIES**
This species is unmistakable.
**MOULT**

Complete **postbreeding** moult, usually finished in October. Partial **postjuvenile** moult including all feathers except the two outermost primaries and their primary coverts, which are retained. Both age classes have a **prebreeding** moult involving only body feathers.

**PHENOLOGY**

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**STATUS IN ARAGON**

Resident, widely distributed in the Pyrenees and scarce in Sistema Iberico.

Grey Partridge. Adult. Female (21-II).

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male (21-II).


Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female (21-II).


Grey Partridge. Adult. Head pattern: top male (21-II); bottom female (21-II).

Grey Partridge. Adult. Crown pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).
Grey Partridge

Grey Partridge. Adult. Breast pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).

Grey Partridge. Crown pattern: top left 2nd year male (21-II); top right 2nd year female (21-II); left juvenile (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of flank (21-II)

Grey Partridge. Breast pattern: top left 2nd year male (21-II); top right 2nd year female (21-II); left juvenile (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of flank (21-II)

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of flank (21-II)
Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female: pattern of flank (21-II)

Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of flank (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. Adult. Pattern of upperparts: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).

Grey Partridge. Adult. Tail pattern: left male (21-II); right female (21-II).

Grey Partridge. Tail pattern: left 2nd year male (21-II); right 1st year female (28-VIII)
Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Female: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)

Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (21-II)

Grey Partridge. Juvenile: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of secondaries and wing coverts (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. Adult. Male: pattern of primaries (21-II)
Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of primaries (21-II)

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of primaries (25-VII)

Grey Partridge. 1st year. Female: pattern of primaries (07-IX) (Foto: Ottenby Bird Observatory)


Grey Partridge. Adult. Female: pattern of wing (21-II)

Grey Partridge. 2nd year. Male: pattern of wing (25-VII)
Grey Partridge. 1st year. Female: pattern of wing (07-IX) (Photo: Ottenby Bird Observatory)


The photographs have been made with the collaboration of the Centre de Fauna d’Esterri d’Àneu (Generalitat de Catalunya)