What is a Group of Deer Called?

When we see a group of animals anywhere we go, we refer their group with different names. While **a group of deer is often called as a herd of deer**, a group of roe deer is called a bevy, a group of dolphins is called a pod, a group of geese is addressed as a gaggle, a group of fish is known as a shoal and in the same manner a gathering of some flamingos is called a flock.

So, what is a group of deer called? Generally, a group of deer is called a herd. However, the size of the group is different in different species. Even a few species would go on alone without any grouping. The parcel is another term rarely used to represent a group of deer.

The male deer is usually known as bucks while the females are known as does. The male deer is ready to mate at the age of a year and begins searching for a partner. After the mating is done, both the male and the female are not seen together. The does are left with the babies and are responsible for their raising. The baby deer are called fawns.

Members of the deer herd

Being a mammal, living in a group increases a sense of safety. Mostly herd consists of old does, bucks offspring, cousins and relatives and maybe friends. They move along with water and bedding areas. Until rut, the leader of the group is female. However, during the rut, males would lead the herd to show dominance.

Common behaviors of the herd

Bucks of the herd often display power to attract females or to show dominance over other males. For this they undergo fight like boxing, pushing and grabbing. The leader of the herd will deal with a member who disobeys the dynamics of living together. Antler play is another activity to snatch territory from other animals. Activities observed constantly in the members of a herd are boxing, grabbing and pushing to show dominance over other members or to attract females for the rut. Here is an interesting video clip showing deer boxing match

Animals living in a herd will eat and travel together. They look like a part of a big family.

Species of deer forming herd

Deer would live in herds or not, it depends on species size. Mostly, larger species such as red deer and Sika live in herds. Normally the group size is small in whitetail deer, black-tailed deer, and a mule. A number of deer in each group depends primarily on the availability of food sources and the quality of habitat.

Parcel of deer

A parcel of deer is another term used to represent a collection of deer living together. However, this term is not used quite often. You may say its not very popular term these days.

Scientific Classification of deer

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Mammalia

Order: Artiodactyla

Infraorder: Pecora

Family: Cervidae Goldfuss, 1820

Subfamilies

- Capreolinae
- Cervinae
- Hydropotinae

The subfamilies of deer

There are three subfamilies of deer as we already mentioned above. Now let us dig deeper into this and find out more.

Brocket deer, Caribou, deer, moose and relatives belong to the Capreolinae sub-family

- Alces alces(moose, Eurasian elk) has 2 subspecies
- Alces americanus(moose) has 2 subspecies
- Blastocerus dichotomus(marsh deer)- has no subspecies
- Capreolus capreolus (western roe deer, European roe) has 4 subspecies
- Capreolus pygargus(Siberian roe, eastern roe deer) has 4 subspecies
- *Hippocamelus antisensis*(North Andean huemul, Peruvian guemal, taruca) -has no subspecies
- *Hippocamelus bisulcus*(guemal, Chilean guemal, South Andean huemul)- has no subspecies
- *Mazama americana*(red brocket, South American red brocket) has 12 subspecies
- Mazama bororo(São Paulo bororó) -has no subspecies
- Mazama bricenii(Mérida brocket)- has no subspecies
- Mazama chunyi(dwarf brocket)- has no subspecies
- *Mazama gouazoubira*(South American brown brocket) has 11 subspecies
- *Mazama nana* –has no subspecies
- Mazama pandora(Yucatan brown brocket) -has no subspecies
- *Mazama rufina*(Ecuador red brocket, little red brocket)- has no subspecies
- Mazama temama (Central American red brocket) –has3 subspecies
- Odocoileus hemionus(mule deer) has 10 subspecies
- *Odocoileus virginianus*(white-tailed deer) has 38 subspecies
- Ozotoceros bezoarticus(Pampas deer) has 5 subspecies
- Pudu mephistophiles(northern pudu)- has no subspecies
- Pudu puda(southern pudu)- has no subspecies
- Rangifer tarandus(reindeer, caribou) has 14 subspecies

The elk, muntjacs and tufted deer belongs to the Cervinae sub-family

- Axis axis(axis deer, chital)- has no subspecies
- Axis calamianensis(Calamian deer) has no subspecies
- Axis kuhlii(Bawean deer) has no subspecies
- Axis porcinus(hog deer) has no subspecies
- Cervus elaphus(elk, wapiti, red deer) has 18 subspecies
- Cervus nippon(Sika deer) –has 16 subspecies
- Dama dama(fallow deer) has 2 subspecies
- Elaphodus cephalophus(tufted deer) has 4 subspecies
- Elaphurus davidianus(Père David's deer) has no subspecies
- *Muntiacus atherodes*(Bornean yellow muntjac) has no subspecies
- *Muntiacus crinifrons*(black muntjac) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus feae(Fea's muntjac) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus gongshanensis(Gongshan muntjac) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus muntjak(red muntjac, Indian muntjac) –has 11 subspecies
- Muntiacus puhoatensis(Puhoat muntjac) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus putaoensis(leaf deer) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus reevesi(Reeves's muntjac) –has 3 subspecies
- Muntiacus rooseveltorum(Roosevelt muntjac) has no subspecies
- *Muntiacus truongsonensis*(Annamite muntjac) has no subspecies
- Muntiacus vuquangensis(large-antlered muntjac) has no subspecies
- Przewalskium albirostris(white-lipped deer) has no subspecies
- Rucervus duvaucelii(barasingha) has 3 subspecies
- Rucervus eldii(Eld's deer) –has 3 subspecies
- Rucervus schomburgki(Schomburgk's deer) has no subspecies
- Rusa alfredi(Visayan spotted deer) has no subspecies
- Rusa marianna (Philippine deer) has 4 subspecies
- Rusa timorensis (Javan deer, Timor deer) –has 7 subspecies
- Rusa unicolor(sambar) –has 7 subspecies

Hydropotinae sub family contains only 2 subspecies

• *Hydropotes inermis*(Chinese water deer) – has 2 subspecies

What is their role in maintaining the Ecosystem?

The deer plays an important role in the ecosystem and helps in maintaining the balance. Both plants and animals are benefited for the presence of this mammal. The deer are herbivorous animals as they live their life feeding on grass and leaves but are the prey of many carnivorous animals. The predators often pick deer as their prey simply for the reason that the deer are peaceloving animals and doesn't seem to do much. The meat of deer is quite tasty and contains a high amount of proteins.

Deer hunting is popular in many states and it also provides a chance of earning money for a different level of people. While going for a hunt, there are different kinds of equipment and gears that are necessary. Starting from the sales of guns, ammunition, bows and arrows, the people related to this business get a chance of earning a good amount of money.

Which species of deer are endangered?

Currently, some species of deer are endangered. The International Union of Conservation or IUCN has made a red list of some endangered species of which some species of deer are present. Calamian deer, the Persian fallow deer, Bawean deer, hog deer and the Anhui Musk deer are included in the red list of IUCN.

Add here a busy deer endagered

Certain restrictions are placed on deer hunting to maintain sustainability. A few things are also made illegal to do, such as it is illegal to kill an adult female deer. The hunters are now given a certain period of time according to the kind of animal, throughout the year for hunting which is known as hunting season.

Interesting facts about deer:

- Except for the Chinese water deer all other species of deer grows an antler
- Within 30 minutes a new born fawn can start walking

- The newborn has some white spots on their body which are no longer present after they are mature
- During the cold season, the deer are seen preserving their energies as there is a shortage of food supplies during that time of the year
- The deer can run with a speed up to 30 miles per hour
- They are also considered as a good swimmer

Faq

How many is a herd of deer?

The number of deer in each herd depends primarily on the size of species, availability of food sources and quality of natural habitat.

Is herd of deer correct?

Yes, of course, the herd is a collective noun and here it is referring the mammal deer. It is correct from grammatical perspectives.

What is a group of cows called?

Group of the cow is named as a herd as it represents a collection of a large number of cows living together

What is a flock of deer called?

Deer flock is also called a herd. Animals in herd usually eat, live and travel together. Such behaviors are termed as flocking behaviors.

What do you call a group of giraffes?

Group of giraffes is termed as tower because of the larger size of the animal

Final Verdict

Hope you know now that what is a group of deer called? That a group of deer called as a herd in generally.

If you are interested in hunting deer then read everything about your prey well before making any plans. Here is a <u>book</u> that may help you to become a successful hunter. Observing deer live in the herd is always an interesting experience. Next time when you spot deer herd, don't forget to save this sight in your camera.