

Five Pheasant Hunting Tips

KEEP IT DOWN

The sound of a truck door closing will alert pheasants similarly to how it would alert a whitetail. Pheasants have good hearing, and those that are frequently hunted tend to seek cover or move to thicker areas when they perceive a threat. Soft talking is acceptable, but it is advisable to close doors quietly and use hand signals whenever possible.

TAKE YOUR TIME

Many old roosters survive because hunters move too quickly, allowing pheasants to evade them. Move through cover in a zigzag pattern and pause often to flush birds from hiding.

HUNT THE EDGES

Pheasants move through diverse habitats daily, often staying near edges. Hunters should focus on transitional areas like fence lines and ditches rather than large habitat chunks for better hunting opportunities.

SLEEP IN

While many pheasant hunters relax by the fire in the late afternoon, they might miss prime hunting time. Pheasants move from heavy covers to open roost sites in the last hour of daylight, often found in grassy patches along corn fields.

SET YOUR CALENDAR BACK

Many hunters store their shotguns before winter, but late-season pheasant hunting can still be fruitful for those willing to brave the weather.