

Were chickens domesticated as a source of food ?

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Chickens are a popular source of animal protein around the world. The male chicken is called a rooster. The rooster ([*Gallus gallus domesticus*](#)) descended primarily from the Red Junglefowl ([*Gallus gallus*](#)). Today, these domesticated subspecies are reared primarily as a source of food for their meat and eggs. Interestingly, when humans first domesticated chickens, they were not intended for their meat and eggs but for the sport of [cockfighting](#).