

- Rectrices.** Quills of the tail of a bird.  
**Recurved.** Curved upward.  
**Remiges.** Quills of the wing of a bird.  
**Reticulate.** Marked with a network of lines.  
**Retractile.** Susceptible of being drawn inward, as a cat's claw.  
**Retrorse.** Turned backward.  
**Rachis.** Shaft of a quill.  
**Rectal.** Pertaining to the rectus, as rectal bristles.  
**Rectus.** Gape of the mouth.  
**Rostral.** Pertaining to the snout, as rostral plate.  
**Rudimentary.** Undeveloped.  
**Ruff.** A series of modified feathers.  
**Rugose.** Rough, with wrinkles.

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- Sacral.** Pertaining to the sacrum, or vertebræ of the pelvic region.  
**Saggitate.** Shaped like an arrow head.  
**Saurognathous.** Having the peculiar "lizard-like" structure of the palate found in Woodpeckers.  
**Scansorial.** Capable of climbing.  
**Scansorial tail.** Tail feathers sharp and stiff, as in the scansorial birds (Woodpeckers).  
**Scapula.** Shoulder blade; in fishes, the bone of the shoulder girdle below the post-temporal.  
**Scapulars.** Long feathers rising from the shoulders and covering the sides of the back.  
**Scapular arch.** Shoulder girdle.  
**Schizognathous.** Split palate, as in the Heron and similar birds.  
**Scute.** Any external bony or horny plate.  
**Scutellate.** Provided with scutella; said of the tarsus when covered with broad plates in a regular vertical series, and separated by regular lines of impression.  
**Scutellum.** One of the tarsal plates or scutella.  
**Secondaries.** The quills growing on the forearm.  
**Secondary coverts.** The wing feathers which cover the bases of the secondary quills.  
**Second dorsal.** The posterior or soft part of the dorsal fin, when the two parts are separated.  
**Sectorial tooth.** One of the premolars of carnivora, adapted for cutting.  
**Semipalmate.** Half-webbed; having the anterior toes more or less connected at base by a webbing which does not extend to the claws.  
**Septum.** A thin partition.  
**Serrate.** Notched like a saw.  
**Sessile.** Without a stem or peduncle.