

HOOVER'S

RUDD HATCHERY IOWA

2020
CATALOG &
REFERENCE
Guide

Ingenuity inspired by our customers' success.

ORDER MINIMUMS

Chickens.....	15
Bantams	20
Ducks.....	15
Geese.....	8
Turkeys (Bronze & White)	10
Turkeys (Bourbon Red)	20
Pheasants	35
Guineas	20
Quail.....	30
Chukars	50

Ducks, geese, turkeys, guineas, pheasants, quail, chukars, and chickens all ship separately.

OUR HOURS

Central Standard Time

JANUARY

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY – JUNE

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

JULY – DECEMBER

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CONTACT

Phone..... 1-641-323-6100
1-800-247-7014

Email..... sales@hoovershatchery.com

Web..... hoovershatchery.com



HOOVER'S BIOSECURITY CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

Poultry sold is originated directly from parent stock tested and found negative for pullorum typhoid diseases within the past 12 months. All of our breeders have had no incident of AI (avian influenza), AE (avian encephalomyelitis), and E. coli shown with our blood testing. We also vaccinate all of our breeders for Mareks, Bronchitis-Newcastle, Bursal, Fowl Pox, Laryngotracheitis, and Salmonella. Hoover's Hatchery works to receive permits from each state we ship to as part of our business.

THE HOOVER'S PROMISE

We promise to deliver you happy, healthy, and vigorous chicks. We pack your birds with the utmost care on each hatch day, and we're thrilled they're going to great farms and homesteads. To give your birds the best start possible, we encourage you to read the care guide at the end of each species section of our catalog to give your birds the best start possible. We guarantee all sexed birds to be 90% accurate as to sex.

48 HOUR GUARANTEE

We guarantee your birds up to 48 hours after they arrive in your care with a refund or a reshipment. If you have any problems, email us at sales@hoovershatchery.com or give us a call, we'd be glad to help you! We do this with good faith that you have followed the care steps for your birds from the moment of their arrival.

USPS SHIPPING INFO

We send a tracking email once your birds ship. The USPS is NOT perfect in scanning packages from location-to-location. The package should, and will usually arrive in 48 hours no matter what the tracking says. *It is good practice to call your local post office to let them know you have a bird shipment coming and to let them know to hold the order there and have them call you. This is their protocol in handling chicks, but sometimes they will deliver to your doorstep which isn't ideal.

24 HOUR ORDER CANCELLATION POLICY

You may cancel your order up to one day prior to your set ship date that is listed on your order confirmation email. Just reply to us in your order confirmation email or give us a call. If your order ships out on a Monday you'll need to call us by the Friday before.



Our Story

At Hoover's we hold ourselves to a very high standard of excellence. After over 75 years, we know our day-to-day can include unexpected obstacles - that's where our spirit of ingenuity and can-do attitude kicks-in, so in the end we can better serve you. Producing happy and healthy chicks is our unwavering standard of excellence, and we always do whatever it takes to make sure that happens!

The success of our customers is what matters most to every one of us at Hoover's Hatchery. At our core is a passion for serving others; making customers smile is what makes us happy and defines our success. We love to innovate, especially when it comes to offering our customers new, fun breeds of baby chicks each year along-side our tried and true heritage breeds of chickens. We pride ourselves in supplying America's backyards and farmsteads with colorful flocks of all kinds.

EXCELLENCE, TENACITY, SERVITUDE, HUMILITY

At Hoover's Hatchery, we believe in supporting our customers through the life cycle of their chickens and other fowl. As a leader in the backyard poultry industry, we believe that a happy chicken owner equals a happy chicken. Whether you are a seasoned chicken owner or a rookie we will do whatever it takes to ensure your success and enjoyment in raising poultry. Check out our blog where we offer our customers support in raising chickens: newsfromthecoop.hoovershatchery.com.

Hoover's Hatchery was born in the summer of 1944 when Bob Hoover and his wife Helen decided to take over the small existing hatchery that was here in the small town of Rudd, Iowa.





Bob and Helen hatched and sold baby chicks until their retirement in the early 70's. At that point, Doug and Mary Halsted had been long time employees of the hatchery who helped manage the day-to-day operations. They soon took over the hatchery and owned and operated it for 47 years. Today, Hoover's is owned by a group of families who believe in the very same principles that the Hoovers and the Halsteds built the hatchery on. Mary Halsted continues to serve as our trusted advisor and keeps us on our toes.

Today the hatchery looks much different than it did in 1944 when Hoover's only hatched White Leghorns. We now hatch and sell over 100 breeds, and we couldn't be more proud to do that right here in our small town of Rudd, Iowa!

You might have noticed a little change in our look this year, and like our little town of Rudd says, "We're not bigger, we're just better." We like to challenge ourselves in looking from where we have come from to where we're going, and we thought our logo needed a facelift to match our values statement. The open shield in our new logo reflects our humility and openness to change. Our only change is our look and making our values more apparent to better serve you. Our service and tenacity in striving for our customers' success remains the same.

We want to thank our loyal customers we have served throughout the years, and all the new ones to come!



FIRST DAY CHICK CARE

The Nitty-Gritty

1 When taking your chicks home, give them access to warm (room temperature) drinking water as soon as possible. Gently dip their beaks in the water so they know what it is and where it is.

Chicks should have a brooding area at least 105 degrees for the first hour and then lower the temperature to 95 – 96 degrees over the next few hours.

2 You can lower the temperature by lifting the heat lamp. Chicks should be in a brooding area that has a surface temperature of 90 – 95 degrees for the first week. Lower the temperature by 5 degrees per week until you reach 70 degrees. Temperatures may need to be slightly higher for bantam chicks.

WATCH THE CHICKS' BEHAVIOR TO SEE IF THE TEMPERATURE IS:

- A.** Too cold – Lots of crowding under the heat lamp.
- B.** Too warm – Lots of chicks spread out away from the heat lamp
- C.** Just right – Some chicks are under the lamp, others are in close proximity and a few are spread out in other areas.

3 Chicks should have at least a ½ sq. foot of space per chick to move away from the heating lamps if necessary.

4 Block corners of the pen with cardboard to make wider angles that are harder for chicks to pile on top of each other to prevent smothering.

5 If chicks have had a hard trip and appear weak or lethargic, mix about 2 tablespoons sugar into 1 quart warm water and give to the chicks. After 16 hours, switch to the regular water. Hoover's also offers vitamins and electrolytes that can be shipped with chick orders.

6 To help chicks start eating, put chick feed on a small flat surface, like a container lid, so they can easily find the feed. This helps deter them from eating the bedding.

7 Use larger wood shavings as bedding on the floor of the brooding area. Do not use sawdust, sand, cedar chips/shavings, or newspaper.

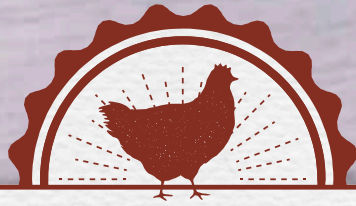
FOOD & WATER

- 1** Give chicks a starter/grower feed until they lay their first egg, then switch to an egg layer feed.
 - 2** Use an easily accessible, 1 foot trough feeder or round feeder and 1 gallon of water for every 25 chicks.
 - 3** Chicks need continuous access to water and feed. If you have broilers, see page 8 for special feeding instructions to avoid ascites or waterbelly.
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HEALTH TIPS

- 1** Chicks will use their beaks to groom or pick themselves. However, occasionally pecking amongst chicks will become a problem if the brooding area is too hot or too crowded. We suggest using a red heat lamp to reduce brightness and the tendency to peck at each other.
- 2** Occasionally, the rear end of a chick will get manure stuck to it pasting “up”. If you see this happen, wash the “paste” off with a cloth and warm water. This should last no more than a few days and can be caused by stress from shipping.





MEAT BIRDS

Fill Your Freezer

Our meat bird breeds are some of the most popular amongst Hoover's customers and there's no doubt they love to fill their freezers! Want breeds that are dual-purpose? Look for the dual-purpose label throughout the rest of our catalog.



RUDD RANGER

We're so proud of our meat birds here at Hoover's that we just had to name one after our little town of Rudd, Iowa. This "haus" loves to free range and finishes out slower than the Cornish Cross Broiler, but the wait is worth it! The Rudd Ranger is a versatile bird that can be raised in more confined areas or in free-range environments but prefers the latter. Just like our wonderful

Rudd residents, these birds are docile and get along with most other breeds. They have red plumage with dark tail and wing feathers and finish out at about 14 weeks. When dressed, the Rudd Ranger's body is more proportional compared to a broiler, making the dark meat almost equal the breast meat.

MATURE WT: MALE 11 LBS. FEMALE 8 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



CORNISH CROSS BROILER

This is the bird that single-handedly changed American eating habits. Before Cornish Cross Broilers were developed, a chicken dinner was a rare treat reserved for special occasions. Pre-Cornish Cross era chickens grew slowly while eating plenty of feed. Their meat was tasty but sparse. The Cornish Cross made broiler production efficient, and today it's often the most inexpensive meat the grocery store sells.

Cornish Cross Broilers require special feeding and care but grow astonishingly fast. They weigh nearly six pounds when only six weeks old by efficiently converting feed into flesh. Cornish Cross Broilers are the best choice for a person who wants to quickly produce delicious meat and has no plan to save hens for egg production.

MATURE WT: MALE 9 – 11 LBS. FEMALE 8 – 9 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

CORNISH GAME HEN

The Cornish Game Hen is a Cornish Cross Broiler pullet that is butchered at three weeks of age when it reaches a weight of 2.5-3 lbs.

SINGLE COMB



Meat Bird Care

The CORNISH CROSS BROILER is a very unique and remarkable bird. We like to think of it as the BBB — big breasted broiler — it has very broad breasts, large thighs, beautiful white plumage, and yellow skin. Its rapid growth is remarkable, along with great feed efficiency. You can actually see it grow before your eyes.

There are special steps to follow when raising our broilers. In order to avoid bad legs and ascites (A.K.A “Waterbelly” or pulmonary hypertension) we recommend the following steps...

- 1** Restrict access to feed to 10 hours per day for the first 3 to 4 weeks. Be sure the chicks have adequate feeder space so most of the chicks can eat at the same time.
- 2** Limit protein in the feed to 20 – 22%.
- 3** Limit light to natural day length or 12 hours (whichever is longer).
- 4** Keep chicks warm with good ventilation, but avoid drafts.
- 5** Keep air quality high by keeping ammonia low.
- 6** Do not use straw for litter – use wood shavings.

If you want the birds to be a consistent weight at butcher, purchase either all pullets (hens) or all cox (roosters). If you want them to mature at different sizes, purchase the straight run. The pullets also make great Cornish game hens if butchered at 1 to 3 lbs. live weight.

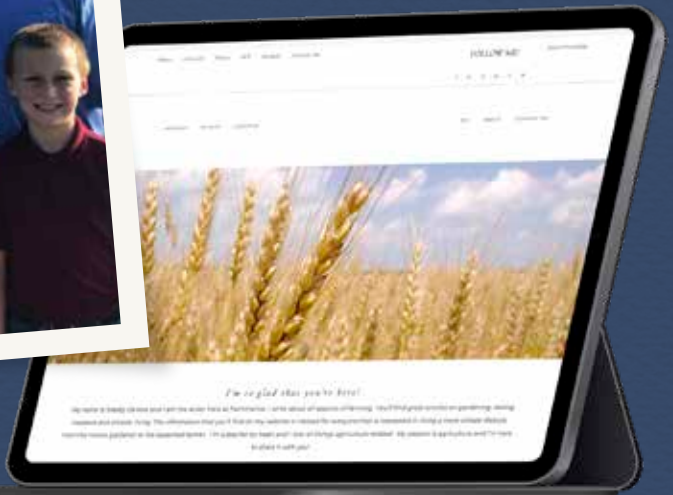
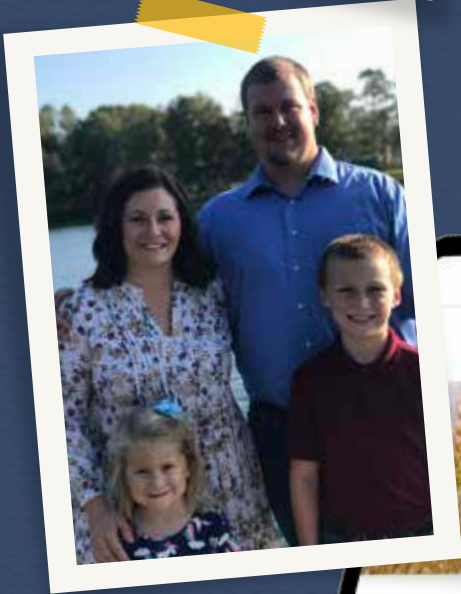
RAISE HOOVER’S CORNISH CROSS BROILERS AND WE GUARANTEE YOU WILL BE DELIGHTED AT THE RESULTS!

Customer Spotlight

Shelby DeVore



Shelby is an agricultural enthusiast that shares her love of all things farming with her husband and two children on their small farm in West Tennessee. She is a former agriculture education teacher and is also the author of the blog *Farminence*, where she enjoys sharing her love of gardening, raising livestock and more simple living. You can see Shelby's articles that she writes for us on our blog, *News From the Coop* or her own website at www.farminence.com.





Best of Both Worlds

While some layers are labeled with the dual-purpose banner throughout the catalog, we have some breeds at Hoover's that stand out above the rest as true dual-purpose breeds. We think the dual-purpose breeds are great for small flocks, and we would never want these overlooked!



RAINBOW (DIXIE)

The Rainbow has one of the most unique feather color patterns you will ever see. It has every color you can imagine and no two birds look alike. The best part about this breed is that they make wonderful birds for small backyard flocks, giving you opportunity to butcher them or keep the hens for eggs!

APPROX. 250 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



ASIAN BLACK

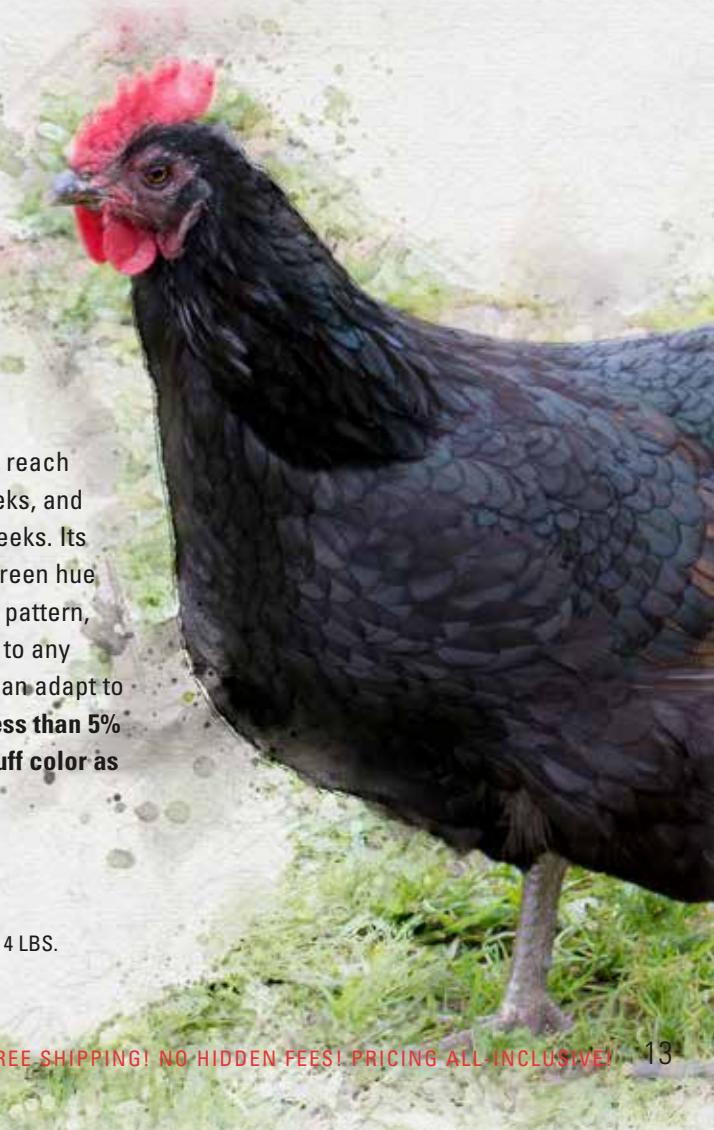
The Asian Black is a slower-growing bird. The males can reach market weight in 16 – 18 weeks, and the females take about 15 weeks. Its striking colors, with a blue/green hue on the black and red feather pattern, makes it a beautiful addition to any flock. It is a hardy bird that can adapt to many growing conditions. **Less than 5% of this flock hatches out a buff color as depicted in the breed photo.**

APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: BROWN

MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS.

SINGLE COMB



DUAL-PURPOSE



DELAWARE

Developed in 1940 by George Ellis in the state of Delaware, these hardy birds make great dual-purpose breeds to add to any flock.

They have white plumage with some black barring on the feather ends of their hackles.

This breed matures quickly and the hens make great egg layers. The Delaware breed does well in free-range environments and

this should be kept in mind when selecting these birds for your backyard or farm. This breed also tends to be calm and docile.

APPROX. 260 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 8.5 LBS. FEMALE 6.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



BUCKEYE

The Buckeye was created in Ohio by crossing Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, and Malay breeds.

They feature rich, brilliant red plumage, yellow legs, and a pea comb. They are good egg layers and grow fairly rapidly. Buckeyes are hardy and resist frostbite very well, thanks to their small comb and wattles. Due to their Malay ancestry, they are very rugged and

excellent foragers. They have an easy-going demeanor and are not inclined to be flighty. The Buckeye is the ultimate combination of beautiful plumage, utility, and hardiness for the backyard flock.

APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 9 LBS. FEMALE 6.5 LBS. | PEA COMB

BLACK AUSTRALORP

The Australorp, an Australian breed, was selected for its high egg production, and was developed primarily from Black Orpingtons that were exported from England in the 1890s to early 1900. Australian breeders selected these large Black Orpingtons because of their efficient egg production and Orpington shape. Today, the Australorp is still a favorite egg producer in small and backyard flocks. Despite their record-breaking egg production, they are still considered a dual-purpose breed that grows at a good rate and has a well-fleshed carcass. The plumage is pure black with an intense beetle-green sheen that is breathtaking when seen in the sunlight. Their legs and toes are also black while the bottoms of the feet are white.



APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 8 LBS. FEMALE 6.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

CHANTECLER MIX

A cold-hardy, dual purpose breed. Chanteclers were created by crossing Wyandottes, Cochins, Cornish, and Leghorns. The goal was to create a hardy, dual purpose bird that could withstand the harsh Canadian winters, lay a good number of eggs, and produce a good carcass for the table. Chanteclers feature small cushion combs along with small, practically non-existent, wattles and dense feathering. All of these traits make it very well suited to cold northern climates. **The Buff and Partridge Chantecler are sold together as an assortment, there is no guarantee on color.**

APPROX. 200 LARGE EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 9 LBS. FEMALE 7 LBS.
CUSHION COMB



BUFF CHANTECLER



PARTRIDGE CHANTECLER

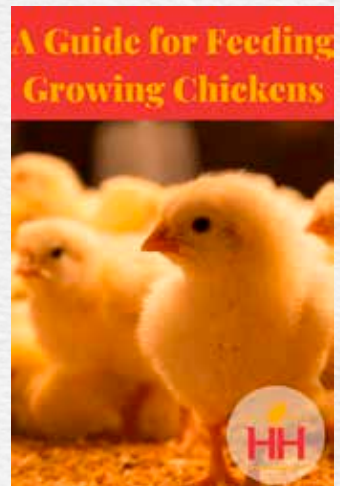
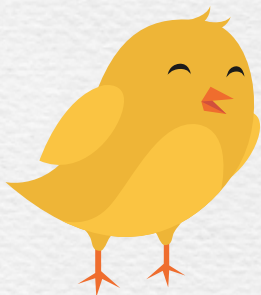
SPOTLIGHT ON OUR BLOG

News From the Coop

We think it's just as important to support our customers in raising their chickens as it is supporting them through the ordering process. Our blog features tips on raising chickens, from identifying predator attacks to keeping their coops safe and healthy. We also feature homesteading articles that give practical advice on alternative foods for chickens, reusing rainwater, and so much more! When our newsletter hits your inbox you won't ever be disappointed by the articles we publish for you!



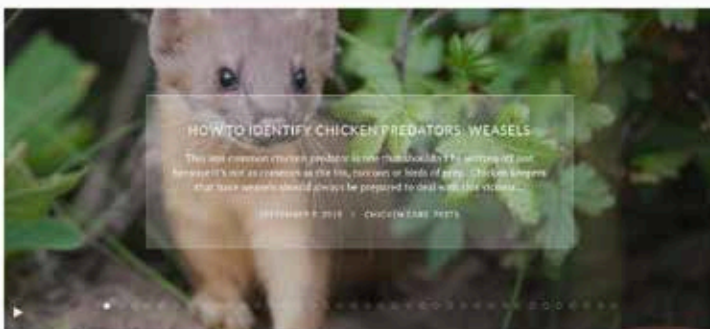
Chick out our blog at: newsfromthecoop.hoovershatchery.com





News From The Coop

HOME ABOUT CHICKEN CARE HOME READING RECIPES SHOP CONTACT



Using Food Scraps to Feed Your Chickens

How To Safely Can Poultry Meat

Benefits of Keeping Guineas on the Homestead



LAYER BREEDS

Eggcellent Egg Layers

Egg-laying chickens are amazing creatures that are mostly adaptable, amazing foragers, and can enrich your daily diet. At Hoover's we believe that a diverse chicken assortment in your flock will keep daily chores interesting, and bird watching may become a hobby due to the variance in breed personalities.

THE NEW ENGLANDERS

Our New England layer line-up is full of moxie – with breeds that boast cold hardiness, good temperaments, and excellent egg-laying qualities through the coldest winters. Carefully selecting chicken breeds provides an opportunity to enjoy a diverse group of productive breeds. Most American chicken breeds were developed years ago for outstanding egg and meat production and they're just as useful today. Often the breed's creators named them for their home state.



PLYMOUTH ROCK

Plymouth Rocks are as easy to care for as they are beautiful. In 1620 a travel-weary band of Pilgrims set foot on Plymouth Rock. Years later an ideal backyard chicken breed was named in honor of this famous site. They link the flock owner with American history while yielding abundant eggs and tasty meat. In bygone days when nearly every farm had a chicken flock, the utility and beauty of these birds made them the breed of choice. Few birds are as stunningly regal as a Plymouth Rock strolling across a summer lawn. With a New England heritage, they don't let January's blizzards interrupt laying.

APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: BROWN

MATURE WT: MALE 9.5 LBS. FEMALE 7.5 LBS.

SINGLE COMB

DUAL PURPOSE



BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK

RARE BREED



PARTRIDGE PLYMOUTH ROCK

LAYER BREEDS

DUAL PURPOSE



NEW HAMPSHIRE RED

New Hampshire Red poultry breeders likely envied Rhode Island for having a chicken breed named for their state. By the mid-1930s they'd perfected a breed in the Granite State that grows a bit faster than the Rhode Island and was an important broiler breed until the era of modern hybrids. New Hampshire Red pullets

sport light rusty red feathers and lay about 240 eggs each year.

APPROX. 240 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6.5 LBS. FEMALE 6.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



RHODE ISLAND RED

Rhode Island may be America's smallest state but the breed developed there in the late 1800s made huge changes in chicken husbandry. The Rhode Island Red's amazing ability to lay about 265 eggs a year made it famous worldwide and became the parent of several modern hybrid egg layers. These glossy mahogany-colored hens with black tail feathers are as beautiful as they are gentle and productive.

APPROX. 265 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 8 LBS. FEMALE 6.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



**THESE NEW ENGLAND BREEDS
KEEP LAYING THROUGH THE
NORTHERN REGION'S**



chill and snow.

A MIXED FLOCK OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AND RHODE ISLAND
REDS YIELDS PLENTIFUL BROWN EGGS LAID BY HENS WITH
FEATHERS OF DIFFERENT SHADES OF RED.



JERSEY GIANTS

BLACK JERSEY GIANT/WHITE JERSEY GIANT

In the late 1800s, New Jersey breeders created a chicken designed to rival the meatiness of the turkeys back then. The massive Black Jersey Giant was the result of merging the genetics of several large breeds. Later, the white Jersey Giant was created. Roosters often weigh an amazing 11 pounds with hens only a few pounds lighter. They grow slowly but eventually are a third larger than most other heavy breeds. These birds are ideal for anyone wanting an impressive hen that lays about 240 extra-large eggs annually. When younger, the birds will mature relatively quick, but they tend to reach a marketable meat weight slower than other breeds. It could take up to 9 months for this bird to fill out its meat proportions.

DUAL PURPOSE



APPROX. 240 X-LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 11 LBS. FEMALE 9 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

DOMINIQUE

The Dominique is considered a “heritage” bird because it is considered America’s oldest breed of chicken. It is believed that the breed was developed as early as 1750 and came to northeast America with the European settlers. Dominique hens tend to be calm and personable. Their calm, steady demeanor makes them successful as show birds or family pets. At first glance, Dominiques and Barred Rocks appear strikingly similar. The strongest difference is that the Dominiques possess a rose comb while Barred Rocks possess a single comb.



APPROX. 245 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | ROSE COMB

IMPORTED COLLECTION

Some of our most coveted breeds are also some of our most productive. The breeds we have that are imported from the Czech Republic have proven to be some of our most robust yet beautiful birds we offer in our lineup! These colorful hybrids will not disappoint you and with two new Czech breeds that lay olive and blue eggs, they will sell out quickly!



SAPPHIRE GEM

Our Sapphire Gem will amaze you with its grey to light grey plumage. This Czech breed is an excellent egg layer and a great forager. It does well in hot and cold climates and is a breed very close to the Old Andalusians. *Please note that grey to light gray plumage is referred to as blue or lavender feathering in the chicken industry.*

APPROX. 290 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 6 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



SAPPHIRE SPLASH

Our Sapphire Splash is a rebel rendition of our Sapphire Gem, with a mix of light to medium dark gray plumage and specks of darker feathering showing up throughout its body. This Czech breed has great performance just like its other Czech cousins. It is both cold and hot weather hardy and is a high performing egg producer! *Please note that due to its splash coloring the colors of the bird will vary.*

APPROX. 290 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 6 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

CALICO PRINCESS

The Calico Princess is topaz colored and its feathers alternate in color between the light red-orange and white, making it seem like a glimmering topaz stone. They are great egg layers and do well in many different environments. They are also robust and can adapt well to different climates. This bird is a specialty hybrid that was created by a breeder in the Czech Republic.



APPROX. 290 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 6 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

MIDNIGHT MAJESTY MARANS

The Midnight Majesty Maran has black plumage and some of the birds have feathered legs and feet. Deep browns show up through their down feathers underneath, making them a mix of beautiful dark brown and black plumage. This breed will lay dark brown eggs with the exception of a small portion of the flock hatching out to lay just brown eggs. This is a hybrid, so the offspring isn't quite perfect. You will truly enjoy this breed in your backyard flock and its dark eggs in your egg carton. These hybrids perform well in many different climates. With any hybrid chicken, plumage colors may vary and brown may show up in hackle feathers. Only a certain amount of this breed hatches with feathered feet. **About 5% of the hatched birds may lay a lighter brown egg.**

RARE BREED



APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: DARK BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 6 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

SAPPHIRE OLIVE EGGER

The Sapphire Olive Egger is both easy on the eyes and the olive eggs are sure to be a great addition to your "eggscape" in your egg carton! This hybrid is a wonderful egg layer and you can't resist that tuft on their heads! These birds adapt well to different climates, especially warmer ones. *This hybrid isn't perfect, about 5% of the birds hatched may lay brown eggs.

RARE BREED



APPROX. 240 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: OLIVE
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 6 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

EUROPEAN COLLECTION

Europe is rich with chicken heritage and we have some of the best and most tried and true breeds that originated from our neighbors across the pond. These breeds are tough and classy and can handle varied climates well. Add some English, Spanish, and German flares to your flock to celebrate your heritage!

RARE BREED



SPECKLED SUSSEX

Speckled Sussex birds originated in England near AD 43, making them one of the oldest known breeds. The oldest and most common coloring is the speckled breed that has dark brown or mahogany colored feathers, and some black and blue feathers with white ends, making the speckles show throughout their plumage. The speckles can become more prominent as the bird molts each year.

APPROX. 240 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 9 LBS. FEMALE 7 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

RARE BREED



BLUE , BLACK, & SPLASH ANDALUSIAN

The original ancestors of the Andalusian came from Spain, but British poultry fanciers are believed to be the ones to really perfect the breed. The Andalusian is most well-known for its striking blue plumage. The ground color of the Andalusian is slate blue with each feather being laced with darker blue. Their large red combs and wattles and white earlobes truly make a stunning and beautiful bird. They have an active disposition and are known to be excellent foragers. The males will develop a large, full tail at maturity along with long flowing saddle and hackle feathers. They are very prolific egg layers and, like all Mediterranean breeds, can handle hot temperatures well. **This breed hatches black, blue, and splash coloring; there is no guarantee what color you will receive.**

APPROX. 280 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 5.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

SILVER LAKENVELDER

The Lakenvelder is an old German breed that is famous for its unique color pattern. The neck, saddle, and tail feathers of the Lakenvelder are black, while the wings, back, and breast are white. The pattern gives them a belted look similar to Dutch Belted cattle and Hampshire hogs. The sharp contrast of black and white feathers makes them an interesting bird to have and admire. In addition to their unique color, they are also very good egg layers. They are a lightweight active breed that is well adapted to free-ranging. The Lakenvelder is a unique and rare breed that would add interest to any flock, all while producing lots of eggs for the table. ***Sold as straight run only.**

RARE BREED



APPROX. 280 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

ANCONA

The Ancona is an old Italian breed that is known for its ability to lay lots of white eggs. They are a light weight breed that can have either a single or rose comb. The males develop long flowing tail feathers that make them especially eye catching. The plumage is black with white-tipped feathers; this is known as mottling. With each molt, birds tend to get whiter. They have an active temperament and are great foragers, and thanks to their smaller size they eat less than larger breeds. Anconas provide a wonderful combination of eye-catching plumage color, long flowing tails, and high egg production, all while being very feed efficient.

RARE BREED



APPROX. 280 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

MARANS & DARK EGG LAYERS

Our lineup of dark egg layers will not disappoint you! The Marans breed originates from a town called Marans, France. It is a very winter-hardy breed with a docile temperament. The Marans, Welsummers, and Barnevelders tend to have a more athletic body. They all prefer to forage and free range more often than other breeds. Marans lay dark brown and dark speckled eggs. These tough breeds make a great addition to any backyard flock or farm. ***French Wheaten Marans, French Copper Marans, and French Cuckoo Marans sold as straight run only.**

RARE BREED



CUCKOO MARANS

APPROX. 175 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: LIGHT BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB

RARE BREED



FRENCH BLACK COPPER MARANS

APPROX. 175 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: DARKER BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB

FRENCH CUCKOO MARANS

APPROX. 175 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: DARKER BROWN/SPECKLED
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB



FRENCH WHEATEN MARANS

APPROX. 175 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: DARKER BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB



WELSUMMER

APPROX. 250 LARGE EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: DARKER BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB



BARNVELDER

APPROX. 160 LARGE EGGS/YEAR
EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6.5 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS.
SINGLE COMB



COLORED EGG LAYERS

“Eggscapes” are all the rage! Filling your egg carton with many different colors adds fun and interest when cooking. Only the best neighbors give these colored eggs away or use them as hostess gifts. We have a full lineup of blue, bright blue, and olive eggers this year, giving you plenty of “eggscapes” options!



AMERICANA

Our Americana (Easter Egger) will give you an assortment of colors from turquoise, to olive to light brown. The Americana breed comes from the Araucana and Ameraucana mix and has different color plumage variations. It is because of this genetic combination that our birds are not meant for exhibition. About 5-10% of this breed will lay brown eggs.

APPROX. 240 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLORS: BLUE, GREEN, LIGHT BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 5.5 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS. | PEA COMB

RARE BREED



PRAIRIE BLUEBELL EGGER

Our Prairie Bluebell Egger lays a novel blue egg but produces higher quality eggs than a pure Araucana. This chicken lays a large quantity of eggs that have blue shells. The Prairie Bluebell Egger is an active bird that is very good at foraging. They are lightweight and do not eat as much as larger breeds. Plumage color varies considerably among individuals, so you can count on having a great variety of beautiful color patterns.

APPROX. 280 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BLUE
MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | PEA COMB

STARLIGHT GREEN EGGER

The Starlight Green Egger is very similar to the Prairie Bluebell Egger. As with the Bluebell Egger, the Startlight Green Egger is a light weight and very active breed that is an excellent forager in free-range situations. The plumage color is also highly variable and comes in many beautiful color patterns not typically seen. If you are looking for a bird that consistently lays a green egg and will lay a lot of them, all while having a beautiful color pattern, then the Starlight Green Egger will be a great addition to your flock! About 5% of this breed will lay brown eggs.

RARE BREED



APPROX. 280 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: GREEN
MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | PEA COMB

OLIVE EGGER

Our Olive Eggers come from a couple of different crosses. With this hybrid, most of the females will be black but a few will come out blue. Our goal with the Olive Egger is to create a green egg that is speckled similar to the Welsummers. Both of these crosses have a chance of laying brown eggs. About 5% of this breed will lay brown eggs. **Check out our other colored egg layer, Sapphire Olive Egger imported from the Czech Republic on page 25!**

RARE BREED



APPROX. 240 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLORS: BLUE, GREEN, LIGHT BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 5.5 LBS. FEMALE 4.5 LBS. | PEA COMB

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Creating safe environments, safe shipping, and safe experiences for all poultry owners.

ORNAMENTAL BREEDS

Looking to add some style and uniqueness to your flock? With this lineup, your birds will be the conversation piece of the neighborhood. Lace and large headdresses are the “in” styles, and we don’t hold back on the options!

RARE BREED



APPENZELLER SPITZHAUBEN

The Spitzhauben originated in Switzerland. They are black and white speckled, with a V-Shaped comb. These birds are excellent climbers and love to roost in trees. They do not do well in smaller coops and are very much free-range birds. The hens are very good medium to large white egg layers. The feathers on their heads closely resemble the

headdresses ladies used to wear in Switzerland. Interestingly, Spitzhauben is German for pointed hoods.

APPROX. 155 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | V COMB

RARE BREED



SALMON FAVEROLLE

People own Salmon Faverolle for their silliness and their steady egg production. These bearded beauties are great docile birds that are very friendly. The breed originated in France and became the premier meat and egg-laying breed at the Paris market in the late 1800s. The salmon color is the most prominent in Europe and where they are available in the United States.

APPROX. 180 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: LIGHT BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

RARE BREED

**BUFF POLISH**

RARE BREED

**GOLDEN POLISH**

RARE BREED

**SILVER POLISH**

RARE BREED

**WHITE CRESTED BLACK POLISH**

RARE BREED

**WHITE CRESTED BLUE POLISH**

APPROX. 110 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: WHITE

MATURE WT: MALE 5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS.

V COMB

Contrary to belief, the breed name Polish doesn't come from Poland. They were named after the Polish army's feathered caps because it closely resembled their feathered crests. The chickens originated in Spain but were then brought to Holland, and eventually the Dutch perfected their coloring. They became a fairly popular bird in France, then started appearing in the United States around the 1830s and 40s. They are a great breed and are docile and even-tempered. They are easily surprised and sometimes nervous due to their feathers limiting their eyesight. This makes them more vulnerable to predators. **The White Crested Blue Polish hatches blue, and black splash, there is guarantee on what color you will receive.**

CAN'T CHOOSE A COLOR?**SEE OUR ASSORTMENTS ON PAGE 43 TO GRAB A POLISH ASSORTMENT!**

LAYER BREEDS (ORNAMENTAL CONT.)

RARE BREED



COCHIN (BUFF, BLUE, BLACK, PARTRIDGE)

The Cochin is an ancient breed originally from China. When they first arrived in the United States they were immensely popular and were used to develop many American breeds such as the Plymouth Rock and Rhode Island Red. Although originally prized as a meat bird, Cochins today are primarily bred for exhibition. They have a docile temperament and are very cold-hardy thanks to their abundant, loose-fitting plumage. The hens are also well-known for their broody instincts and mothering ability. They come in several beautiful plumage colors including Buff, Blue, Black, and Partridge. **Only sold as a color assortment and as straight run.**

APPROX. 175 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 11 LBS. FEMALE 8.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

TURKENS

RARE BREED

The Turkens are not half chicken and half turkey, they are a unique chicken with a bare neck like the turkey, and with very little feathering around the breast and wing areas. In spite of their lack of feathers, they are very cold weather tolerant. They are friendly and easy to tame, plus they make for great conversation with curious neighbors! **Sold as straight run only.**



APPROX. 265 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6.5 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

IN THE KNOW

Hoover's Hatchery is a member of the Bird Shippers of America group. The Bird Shippers of America consists of a group of organizations and hatcheries across the United States that have one common goal to improve the backyard poultry industry. Their website is a fantastic resource for Salmonella facts, poultry information, and much more! Check it out at birdshippers.org.

WINSOME WYANDOTTES

These lacy girls aren't all show with their elegantly patterned feathers. They are also great egg layers! However, Wyandottes are one of the most strikingly beautiful chickens to grace a backyard flock. Developed in New York, they are quiet, easy to manage and are one of the most winter-hardy of all breeds.



SILVER LACED WYANDOTTE



GOLD LACED WYANDOTTE

RARE BREED



BLUE LACED RED WYANDOTTE

RARE BREED



COLUMBIAN WYANDOTTE

APPROX. 245 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 7 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | ROSE COMB

BRILLIANT BRAHMAS

This perfect backyard chicken breed is named for India's Brahmaputra River. The breed probably came to the United States on Nineteenth Century sailing ships or it may have been developed here from other Asian breeds. Either way, Brahmans are enormous. Hens weigh about 10 pounds with loose fluffy feathers that make them look even bigger. Feathers cover their feet and shanks, keeping them warm in winter. Their docile, gentle, and quiet temperament makes them one of the best breeds around children. Hens lay about 200 medium-sized brown eggs annually, sometimes go broody, and are attentive mothers.



LIGHT BRAHMA



DARK BRAHMA



BUFF BRAHMA

APPROX. 200 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 18 LBS. FEMALE 14 LBS. | PEA COMB

OUTSTANDING ORPINGTONS

One of the best breeds for newcomers to chickens, and for families with young children, is named for the English town where it was developed. Orpingtons come in several feather colors but all are big, quiet birds with fluffy feathers that keep them toasty warm during frigid weather. One of the gentlest of breeds, Orpingtons are easy to manage. Buffs are the most common color and lay about 220 brown eggs a year. **Lavender Orpington sold as straight run only.**

DUAL PURPOSE



BUFF ORPINGTON

RARE BREED



LAVENDER ORPINGTON

APPROX. 220 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 8.5 LBS. FEMALE 7 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



ASSORTED ENGLISH ORPINGTON

The Orpington was first imported to the United States in 1900 and has been a favorite farm-flock and exhibition chicken since it was first introduced. In England, where the breed originated, its popularity skyrocketed and breeders developed many new varieties in addition to the Black, Buff, Blue, and White which are common in the U.S. Until very recently, none of these other color patterns had yet made their way over to the U.S. English-bred Orpingtons tend to have looser fitting feathers, shorter bodies, and shorter legs. They are also very broad across the back and overall have a more rounded shape compared to American-bred Orpingtons. Despite their differences, the English Orpington is still similar to the American-bred Orpingtons in that they are good dual-purpose birds that lay a good amount of brown eggs and they have a gentle temperament. We are excited to offer the following beautiful varieties of English Orpington: Silver, Blue, Chocolate, Jubilee, and Mottled! **No color is guaranteed in the assortment. Sold as straight run only.**

APPROX. 150 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 9 LBS. FEMALE 7.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

SEX-LINK

For years, folks have been mixing breeds to come up with the best of the best sex-links and hybrid chickens. Hoover's is happy to bring you the best selection of sex-link chickens available on the market, offering you a great mix of black, amber, and red hybrid choices all from one hatchery. At Hoover's we know you won't be disappointed in the performance of our sex-link chickens.



ISA BROWN

One of the top sellers in the industry because of the number of eggs they lay and their demeanor. The ISA Browns have excellent shell quality and texture. A docile bird, they are easy to work with. When they are hatched, the pullets are red and the cockerels are white.

APPROX. 320 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



AMBERLINK

This graceful white and amber colored hybrid can lay eggs like no one's business, even in the cold dark winters! It is derived from the ISA genetic line and doesn't disappoint in egg production and cold hardiness. It is a very well-balanced bird that lays nice medium-size table eggs. They are docile and make great foragers.

APPROX. 270 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

GOLDEN COMET

Another great sex-link chicken that has great egg-laying qualities, making this another top, red sex-link choice for your backyard flock!

APPROX. 260 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



CINNAMON QUEEN

A beloved breed that takes the best qualities from its parents, a Rhode Island Red rooster and a Silver Laced Wyandotte Hen. The Cinnamon Queens are wonderful egg layers and take the cold hardiness from their parents. They are mostly rose combed. Even through the winter, they will ensure that you have eggs all year long!

APPROX. 260 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | ROSE COMB/SINGLE COMB



PRODUCTION RED

The Production Red isn't a true sex link, but it performs like one! This breed is one of the most hardy and productive birds Hoover's offers. The hens lay good-size eggs that have strong shell quality.

APPROX. 260 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



BLACK SEX-LINK

The Black Sex-Link is an excellent brown egg layer. It is created from a Barred Rock hen and a Rhode Island Red cockerel. This creates a very versatile bird that is a great egg layer, has the temperament of a Barred Plymouth Rock and can hold its own through the cold-dark winter.

APPROX. 265 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: BROWN
MATURE WT: MALE 6 LBS. FEMALE 5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB



LAYER BREEDS

WHITE EGG LAYERS

It's hard to overlook a good classic white egg layer when putting together a backyard flock that will give you an abundance of eggs. These prolific egg layers are all cold hardy, and do well in smaller living spaces. However, white egg layers tend to be flightier. These classics won't disappoint if you are looking for an abundance of eggs.



WHITE LEGHORN

Years ago, a small, amazingly productive chicken breed was imported from Italy through the port of Livorno. 'Leghorn' became the Anglicized word for that port and the breed. Supermarket eggs are almost always laid by White Leghorns or hybrids developed from them. Hens lay about 290 eggs every year while eating less feed than most other breeds. They are perfect for a family wanting abundant white eggs. Leghorns are nervous nelliess that can fly over fences.

APPROX. 290 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 4 LBS. FEMALE 3.5 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

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- MEDICATED STARTERS
- NON-MEDICATED STARTERS
- LAYER PELLETS

BROWN LEGHORN

Brown Leghorns share the productive traits and nervous personality of their white cousins but have slightly larger bodies clothed in one of the most beautiful feather patterns of any white egg-laying breed. Always alert, Brown Leghorns are athletic, excitable, noisy, and often better able to avoid predators than slower breeds.



APPROX. 280 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 4.5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

CALIFORNIA WHITE

California White hybrids look almost exactly like the White Leghorns they were developed from but are slightly larger and have a few black spots on their white feathers. They are laying dynamos that produce about 300 white eggs a year. California Whites are quiet, calm and one of the best white egg layers for backyard flocks. Adding a few California Whites to a flock of brown egg layers adds color diversity to the egg carton.



APPROX. 300 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE
MATURE WT: MALE 4.5 LBS. FEMALE 4 LBS. | SINGLE COMB


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ASSORTMENTS

If you're looking for a great assortment or variety, look no further! We offer many different assortments that will more than meet your flock dreams in the backyard or on the farm. It's important to note that we do not take special requests for certain breeds or colors when an assortment is ordered. Part of the fun of ordering an assortment is guessing which breeds are in your box. To help you what breeds were part of your assortment, we have an "I.D. My Chick Page" on pages 80-83.



HATCHERY CHOICE RARE

Hatchery Choice Rare will be any assortment of rare breeds based on availability from any bird that has a "Rare Breed" banner. The assortment will not include bantams. Breeds that could be included in this assortment: Appenzeller Spitzhauben, Barnevelder, Blue Andalusian, Buff Brahma, Cochin, Columbian Wyandotte, French Black Copper Marans, French Cuckoo Marans, French Wheaten Marans, Lavender Orpington, Light Brahma, Midnight Majesty Marans, Olive Egger, Polish Buff Laced, Polish Gold Laced, Polish Silver Laced, Polish White Crested Black, Polish White Crested Blue, Prairie Bluebell Egger, Salmon Faverolle, Sapphire Olive Egger, Silver Lakenvelder, Speckled Sussex, Starlight Green Egger, Turken, Welsummer.

ASSORTED COLORED EGG LAYERS

Our Color Egg Production Pack is an great assortment of different rare breeds that will fill your egg basket with a variety of color! "Eggscapes" are all the rage! We have a full lineup of brown, blue, dark brown, green and olive eggers in this assortment, giving you plenty of "eggscapes" options! You may receive any of the following breeds in this assortment: Americana, Olive Egger, Prairie Bluebell Egger, Sapphire Olive Egger, Starlight Green Egger, Midnight Majesty Marans, French Black Copper Marans, or Cuckoo Marans.

ASSORTED CRESTED & POLISH

A mixture of our Spitzhauben and all our Polish breeds. This assortment is based on availability and may include the Buff Laced Polish, Silver Laced Polish, Gold Laced Polish, White Crested Black Polish, White Crested Blue Polish, and our Appenzeller Spitzhaubens.

ASSORTED BROWN EGG LAYER

This will be an assortment of our standard brown egg layers based on availability. This assortment will not include meat birds of any kind, or white egg layers. You will receive a good mix and variety.

ASSORTED WHITE EGG LAYER

This will be an assortment of our standard white egg layers based on availability. This assortment will not include meat birds of any kind, or brown egg layers. The breeds may be a mixture of the following: Brown Leghorn, White Leghorn, or California White, and can include any of our white egg layers.

HATCHERY CHOICE EGG LAYERS

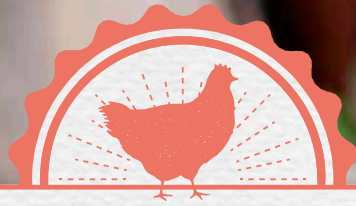
An assortment of breeds based on availability overall at the time of your chosen hatch. **Since this combination is based on availability it may include no less than 2 different breeds.** This combination can include both brown and white egg layers.

HATCHERY CHOICE DUAL-PURPOSE

This assortment may include any bird in the Dual-Purpose category or that has a Dual-Purpose banner behind it and is based on availability. **Since this combination is based on availability it may include no less than 2 different breeds.** You will love the flexibility that most of these Dual-Purpose breeds offer, they are all great egg layers and make great additions to your dinner table.

FRY PAN SPECIAL

A great mix of our meat birds, both Cornish Cross Broilers and our Rudd Rangers, based on availability. If you have an operation that allows the birds to either be free range, or inside, and you love variety, this assortment is for you!



BANTAMS

Bantam Beauties

Living small is the new rage, and if you love everything small, or you just love how beautiful they can be, then our bantams are for you! Bantams eat less food, require smaller housing, and create less of a mess! They are great for kids too and most tend to have docile temperaments and make wonderful mothers.

**BANTAMS ARE AVAILABLE TO SHIP MAY-JULY | MINIMUM ORDER 20 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY
BANTAMS MUST SHIP SEPARATELY FROM CHICKS AND CANNOT BE COMBINED**

Cochin Bantams are friendly, docile chickens and tend to be submissive when kept with more aggressive breeds. The Cochins were introduced to the United States around 1850 from China. They require good-quality feed and mature in two years. They make remarkably good pets, and a pet Cochin can live between 8 – 10 years. They make excellent brooders because of their calm, maternal nature. **Red Frizzle Cochin sold only in Cochin Bantam Assortment.**



BLACK COCHIN



BUFF COCHIN



PARTRIDGE COCHIN



RED COCHIN



RED FRIZZLE COCHIN

ASSORTED COCHINS NOW AVAILABLE! WE DO NOT GUARANTEE COLORS IN ASSORTMENTS.

APPROX. 104 SMALL EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: BROWN

MATURE WT: MALE 3 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS.

SINGLE COMB

BANTAMS

The Old English Bantam originated in England from Rome in the first century. Back then in England, the Old English, were raised for cock fighting, a cheap sport that anyone could get involved in. The sport was later banned in 1849 and today the birds are raised for exhibition. The upright appearance and confidence in this breed sets it apart and makes it noticeable. Our Old English Bantam Assortment includes many different colors including the Crele, Blue, Barred, Red Pyle, BB Red, and Silver Duck Wing!



BB RED OLD ENGLISH



**SILVER DUCK WING
OLD ENGLISH**

APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: BROWN

MATURE WT: MALE 2.5 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS.

SINGLE COMB



ASSORTED OLD ENGLISH

**BANTAMS SHIP SEPARATELY FROM CHICKENS AND OTHER FOWL.
MINIMUM 20 BANTAMS PER ORDER.**

BLACK TAIL WHITE JAPANESE

A distinguished breed with white body feathers and black tail feathers. The bright red comb and wattles complete the beauty of this bird. The Black Tail White Japanese originated in Japan in the 1700s and was originally bred to only be a bantam. This breed has high tail feathers and is shorter than the average bantam.



APPROX. 52 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 2.5 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

MILLE FLEUR d'UCCLE

Mille Fleur d'Uccle bantams generally have great temperaments, making them easy birds to handle for the novice chicken keeper, or for kids. It is because of this that they make excellent pet chickens. Their mahogany feathers with speckles get more and more beautiful after each molt. Mille Fleur in French translates to "thousand flowers." Being that this bantam originates in Belgium, its no wonder the creator named it as such.



APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 2.5 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS. | SINGLE COMB

PORCELAIN d'UCCLE

The Porcelain d'Uccle originates in Belgium. They have beards, feathered legs, and their plumage is a beautiful blueish-white that almost seems iridescent and all feathers are tipped in white. They have good temperaments and friendly dispositions.



APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM
MATURE WT: MALE 1 LB. FEMALE 1 LB. | SINGLE COMB



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BANTAMS



GOLDEN SEBRITE



SILVER SEBRITE

SEBRITE

One of the most stunning breed of chickens in the world. The breed originated in England in the 19th century. The Sebright breed has black lacing with either gold or silver base color. They lay very small tinted eggs, but do not lay well and are not setters. They are kept primarily for pleasure and exhibition. Sebrights have unfeathered legs with slate blue skin, and their beaks are a dark horn color.

APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: CREAM

MATURE WT: MALE 2.5 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS.

ROSE COMB



SILKIES (WHITE, BLACK, BLUE, BUFF)

Silkies are named for their unique fluffy plumage, which is said to feel like silk. This breed has several other unusual qualities, such as black skin and bones, blue earlobes, and five toes on each foot. Silkies are well known for their calm, friendly temperament. Among the most docile of poultry, Silkies are considered an ideal pet. Hens are exceptionally broody, and make

good mothers. Though they are fair layers themselves, laying about three eggs a week, they are commonly used to hatch eggs from other breeds and bird species. ***Silkies are only sold in assorted colors.**

APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: LIGHT BROWN

MATURE WT: MALE 2.5 LBS. FEMALE 2 LBS. | ROSE COMB



HATCHERY CHOICE BANTAM

The assortment is great for hobby flock owners! You'll get a good mix and variety of bantams, allowing you to get the best of the bantam breeds. There may be an assortment of any of the bantam breeds we offer including any of the following: Barred Old English, BB Red Old English, Black Tail White Japanese, Blue Old English, Buff Brahma, Black Cochin, Buff Cochin, Partridge Cochin, Crele Old English, Golden Seprite, Mille Fleur, Porcelain d'Uccle, Partridge Wyandotte, Red Cochin, Red Pyle Old English, Silver Seprite and/or Silkie Bantams. Looking for Assorted Old English? Look under the Old English Section!



DUCKS

ALL THEY'RE
Quacked Up
TO BE

Bring the wonder of feeding the ducks at the lake into your backyard. Ducks are great for bugs and will forage a higher percentage of their food compared to chickens, plus take up less space. Their eggs are packed with omega-3s and have more of a rich flavor than chicken eggs. If these are the qualities you are looking for, and you don't mind a little mess or trampling by their wide feet, then a few ducks are the bread to your butter.

SOME DUCKS ARE AVAILABLE YEAR-ROUND | MINIMUM ORDER 15 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY



BLACK OR BLUE SWEDISH

Swedish ducks are a very hardy, strong duck with good foraging ability and good for free range duck farming. The advantage of the Black Swedish over the Blue Swedish is that the Black Swedish will breed true. If you mate a Black Swedish with a Black Swedish, all the progeny will be Black Swedish. They were first imported into the USA in the late 1800s. The egg color of the Swedish Blue duck is white, green or blue tinted. They are slow to mature but make a good meat duck, and a moderate egg layer, but don't do well in confinement. Sometimes they are quite a noisy breed. The ducks have a loud yelling type quack. Blue Swedish duck plumage is a uniform bluish slate with some feathers laced in a darker shade. They carry some white on their wings and breast, and drakes are slightly darker than ducks.



APPROX. 130-180 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE TO BLUE TINT

MATURE WT: 5-6.25 LBS. AT 20 – 24 WEEKS



BUFF DUCK

The Buff or Buff Orpington duck was developed by the William Cook family who lived in the Orpington area of Kent, England in the early 1900s. It was developed as a multipurpose bird, with the ability to lay good quantities of eggs along with having the size and feather color to make a good roasting duck. Some even claim that the buff colored feathers are easier to pluck than the white

Pekin feathers. Interestingly, they are the only poultry breed admitted in the American Standard of Perfection with their name as a color only. They remain a very beautiful and popular breed. The drakes and ducks are both buff in color with orange-yellow shanks and feet. However, the drake's bill is yellow while the duck's bill is brownish-orange. Buffs are nice calm ducks and also make great pets. Like most domestic ducks, the Buff is capable of flying very short distances, if at all.

APPROX. 130-180 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE TO BLUE TINT
MATURE WT: 5-6.25 LBS. AT 16-28 WEEKS



CAYUGA

The Cayuga breed is thought to have been developed from the wild Black Duck breed in the region of Lake Cayuga in New York. This makes it one of the few duck breeds originating in the United States. Prior to the arrival of the Pekin breed, they were the bird of choice for meat production in the Northeast. Once the Pekin arrived with its white feathers and cleaner appearing

carcass, the Cayuga quickly lost its appeal. They remain a very hardy duck and many of their eggs have varying degrees of gray in the shell color. On rare occasions they will lay a pure black egg. They have a very brilliant "beetle" green sheen to their feathers. This is especially evident on the head of the male. As they age, however, Cayuga become almost all white after several years. This changing of colors occurs much quicker in females than males. In addition, their black legs turn more orangish in color as they age.

APPROX. 130-180 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: GRAY | MATURE WT: 4.75-6 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS

GOLDEN 300 HYBRID

Developed in 1996, the Golden 300 Hybrid lay more and larger eggs, have a higher fertility and are calmer than the Khaki Campbell. This Hybrid can be sexed at any age by its color as the males are shades of black and the females are shades of brown. Unfortunately, they do

not retain this characteristic in future generations. So if you mate a Golden 300 Hybrid with another Golden 300 Hybrid, their progeny will hatch in blacks, yellows and browns with no relationship between sex and color. As adults the females range in color from a very light brown to a very dark brown, often with areas of white on them. Males can appear much like a Rouen, or a dull looking Cayuga or with white and dark markings.



APPROX. 200-290 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 4.5-5.75 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS

KHAKI CAMPBELL

The Khaki Campbell is one of the more famous and popular duck breeds due to its excellent egg production. It was introduced in 1901 by Mrs. Adele Campbell of Gloucestershire, England. She experimented with Runners crossed with Rouen and Mallards but never revealed the exact genetic makeup of her Campbells. The advantage over the pure Runner was a more useful carcass for meat and improved egg production. Though they have been turned into an exhibition type breed, she was adamant that her birds were designed for production, not the exhibition hall. Khaki Campbells are a very hardy breed that tends to be nervous, energetic and are great foragers that do tend to be broody.



APPROX. 165-240 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 3.5-4.5 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS



MALLARD

Mallards are native to most countries in the Northern Hemispheres. It is thought that all domestic ducks except Muscovy are derived from the wild Mallard, or "Greenhead" as some call them. They are a small, flying duck that is hunted widely. Our Mallards retain this excellent flying ability and they do an excellent job of hatching and raising one or two broods

of ducklings a year. Mallards start to fly for short spurts at 10-12 weeks and are flying very well by 16 weeks. True to their habit as migratory birds, these birds will fly away for the winter, but will often return to the same location in the spring. It is also at about 14-16 weeks that the males get their beautiful coloring - prior to that both the males and females are similarly colored in shades of brown. Mallards are calm ducks that are great entertainment, and organic pest control that are very hardy in all climates.

Important Note: All domestically hatched Mallard ducklings are required to be identified by US Fish and Wildlife. Our ducklings will have a back toe removed upon hatch to identify them as domestically hatched.

APPROX. 60-120 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 2.25-2.5 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS



PEKIN

Pekins are the most common domestic duck. The adults are pure white and the ducklings are a cute yellow. They are a large, hardy breed with excellent egg production if managed properly. Selection by breeders over the years has produced a duck that can often be processed by 40 days of age at a live weight of seven pounds. Though their feed

efficiency does not match that of chickens, they can still produce one pound of live weight from 2.5 pounds or less of feed. They do not fly and do not normally hatch and raise their own young. Pekins are very talkative, are good layers and make great pets!

APPROX. 150-200 X-LARGE EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 8-12.25 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS

ROUEN

Rouens are probably the second most popular breed in North America. They are very beautiful and closely resemble Wild Mallards in coloration. The original breed was developed in the Normandy area of France and was given the name Rouen after the city of Rouen. They are second to only Pekins and Muscovy in size and are said to have very flavorful meat. The Rouen is very calm, has a gentle disposition and makes a good pet. Rouen ducks tend to be broody, and are hardy in most climates. They have a fairly lean carcass. Some people mistake Rouens for Mallards but that is incorrect as Mallards fly quite easily and Rouens do not. A Rouen is at least three times the weight of a Mallard.



APPROX. 140-180 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: WHITE TO BLUE TINT

SAXONY

Saxony duck was developed by Albert Franz of Germany in the 1930's. He used Pekin, Rouen, Buff and Blue Pomeranian breeds to develop a beautifully colored, excellent dual purpose bird. The male Saxony Duck pattern is similar to a Mallard Duck, but they have a blue-gray head, wing marking, and tail as well as chestnut, white, and cream coloring. The female Saxony Ducks are a buff color with creamy white facial stripes, as well as a cream neck ring and underbody. They are a very large duck, second only to the Pekin but are great foragers and have a very gentle, docile nature. Saxony are very hardy to both hot and cold climates. With their unique coloring and markings they are becoming very popular for exhibition.



APPROX. 120-175 LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM | MATURE WT: 6.5-8.5 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS



SILVER APPELYARD

Developed by Reginald Appleyard of England in the 1930's, Silver Appleyards are considered the most active foragers among the heavy weight ducks. Their calm temperaments and beautiful plumage with colors including reddish chestnut, silver-white, gray, brown, and buff make them an excellent ornamental pet duck. Appleyards are known to have very

flavorful, lean meat. Reputedly the best egg layers among the heavy weight ducks, they tend to be broody and have potential to hatch their own young. Since the Silver Appleyard duck is hardy in both hot and cold climates they make a great triple purpose duck that is an excellent addition to any flock!

APPROX. 200-270 X-LARGE EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAMY WHITE
MATURE WT: 2.25-2.5 LBS. AT 20-24 WEEKS



WELSH HARLEQUIN

The Welsh Harlequin is a fairly new breed, developed by Leslie Bonnett in Wales from two off-colored Khaki Campbell ducklings in 1949. They are very calm, inquisitive and excellent foragers who are hardy in all climates. They can also make an outstanding dressed bird as their under-feathers are almost exclusively white making their carcass

as pretty as a pure white bird. Interestingly, they can be sexed after hatching with 90% accuracy by their bill color. Darker bills mean a male and lighter bills ending in a dark spot are normally females, but within several days this distinction disappears. They are also a beautiful bird, especially the feather patterns and colors on the adult females. Welsh Harlequin's are known for being broody and are good mothers. Like most domestic ducks, the Welsh are capable of flying very short distances, if at all.

APPROX. 150-200 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 5-5.5 LBS. AT 16-28 WEEKS

WHITE LAYER

Developed in 1999, the White Layer has equal egg production to the Golden 300 Hybrid.

The only minor difference between it and the Golden 300 Hybrid is that the White Layer lays fewer bluish colored eggs. All the offspring of the White Layer are white. Our White Layer is a calm bird, much like the Buff, Cayuga, and Blue Swedish, however, we have had reports that they can be a very nervous bird, much like the Khaki Campbell. They are rarely broody and are very hardy in all climates.



APPROX. 200-290 JUMBO EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 4.5-5.75 LBS. AT 16-28 WEEKS

WHITE CRESTED

The White Crested is a classic breed, having records of its presence as early as 1660 due them being in paintings of Jan Steen. They make a wonderful dual purpose breed that are a great addition to any flock. The ideal crest is large, yet centrally located on the head, and also should not be split into two lobes. Our White Crested ducklings are not sold if they don't have a crest. The White Crested has

no flying ability, do not make good mothers, are fair at foraging and are very hardy in all climates. They are popular as pets and ornamental additions to your flock. White Crested ducklings are yellow at hatch with a puff on their heads and the adults are pure white with orange feet, legs and bill.



APPROX. 100-130 MEDIUM EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: OFF WHITE
MATURE WT: 6-7.25 LBS. AT 16-28 WEEKS

RUNNERS



BLACK RUNNER



CHOCOLATE RUNNER



BLUE RUNNER



**FAWN & WHITE RUNNER/
INDIAN RUNNER**

All Runners were originally bred in Southeast Asia for high egg production and excellent mobility. Flocks of ducks are herded daily from field to field eating waste rice, weed seeds, insects, slugs and other bugs. They are then put in a bamboo pen at night where they lay their eggs and are released the following morning to clean other fields. You will not find a better foraging duck than the Runner. They are light in weight so there is less chance of them trampling the vegetation in your garden or yard. Runners are the most energetic ducks and will forage most of the day. They are rarely broody and are hardy in all climates. **Runner ducks can be sold as an assortment.**

APPROX. 100-180 SMALL EGGS/YEAR

EGG COLOR: GREEN

MATURE WT: 3.25-4 LBS. AT 16-28 WEEKS

ASSORTED RUNNER DUCKS

If you don't care about colors and want to save a bit of money, order the Assorted Runners. If you order at least six, we will make sure you get at least two colors. If you order fifteen, you will get at least three different colors.

ASSORTED DUCKS

If you aren't choosy about breeds, this is a great way to get started with a variety of ducks! Assorted ducklings are what we have available after all specific breeds are shipped. Normally we are able to include at least three breeds in the mix but sometimes it may only be one breed if that is all we have available. Any breed can be in the mixed selection – from the common Pekin to the rare Silver Appleyard. The best part of ordering the assortment is figuring out which breeds you have as they grow!

Duck & Gosling Care

- 1** Feed and water the waterfowl at once upon arrival.

Starter feed of at least 20% protein is needed the first three weeks. Do not use layer feed; it contains too much calcium. First choice is non-medicated feed. If that is not available, you may use medicated feed. Medicated feed harming waterfowl is an “old wives’ tale” that is very persistent. Adult waterfowl may have trouble eating mash; it is better to feed them crumble or pellets. If you are only feeding them whole or cracked grain, they will not get enough daily protein.
- 2**
- 3** Forage is excellent for waterfowl but it replaces very little of the nutrients waterfowl need. Make sure access to feed is always available.
- 4** Waterfowl can be messy with their water. Make a wire floor underneath their waterer to reduce mess.
- 5** Ducks and geese do not need constant bathing water. To reduce the mess, only provide bathing water once or twice a week.
- 6** The best age for processing ducks is 7 – 12 weeks of age when all of their feathers are mature and there are no pinfeathers. Goslings are usually marketed in the fall months at 24 – 30 weeks of age.



BETTER THAN THE
Golden Goose

These birds aren't all hiss and honk. Geese make wonderful weeders. They are mostly vegetarian and if you need an area cleaned out you can bet they will devour some, if not all, of the weeds. Their loud honks can serve as an alarm system when something foreign enters the farm or yard. They are wonderful protectors of smaller fowl. Your investment in geese is long-lasting, and most will live up to 15-20 years!

Our selection is made to accommodate all your desired needs!

**AVAILABLE TO SHIP LATE MARCH-JUNE | MINIMUM ORDER 8 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY
CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SPECIES OF BIRDS TO SHIP**



AFRICAN

A curious goose, the African was introduced to the U.S. in the mid 1800's. Its gray feathers with white under belly, black knob on the top of its head and a dark stripe down the back of its neck make it recognizable as a common farm goose. African geese are beautiful, active foragers that are a bit noisier than some breeds. They are a smaller bird than the Embden and Toulouse and are considered a medium size goose.



APPROX. 35 – 45 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 12.5 – 15.5 LB.

AMERICAN BUFF

The American Buff is a rare domestic goose from the U.S. that is a beautiful apricot-fawn color. This very calm natured, friendly goose sports buff colored feathers on its back that fade to a creamy white on its sides with its abdomen being nearly white. Their feet, legs and bill are orange, but its legs may fade to pink during laying or when green grass is not available. This hardy dual-purpose goose is known to be a good parent and take good care of their young.



APPROX. 25 – 35 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 14 – 16 LB.



BROWN CHINESE

Brown Chinese geese originated in China, descending from the wild Asiatic Swan goose, and are the smallest breed of geese we offer. Chinese are the most prolific egg laying geese and are known to lay in the fall or winter. Most Chinese geese lay from 50-60 eggs but may produce as many as 100 eggs per year. These geese are known to be more talkative which makes them perfect to alert you to intruders. Best known for their excellent weeding due to their size, agility, and love of grass, they make excellent grazers and are often used for commercial crops.

APPROX. 30 – 45 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 8 – 10 LB.



EMBDEN

The Embden is the most popular goose for eating because of their fast growth rate, large size and white plumage. They are a nice strong hardy breed with blue eyes and orange beaks and feet. At hatch you can tell the males by the color of their down as they are lighter gray than females. When mature, males are normally larger, pompous and proud, and shriller than the females. This heavy size goose is not a flyer, is a good weeding goose and will often raise a full nest of goslings.

APPROX. 35 – 45 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 15 – 20 LB.



TOULOUSE

Toulouse is a very old domestic breed originating in Toulouse, France, recorded as far back as 1555. Brought to America in the 1850s, they became the most popular commercial goose breed. Extremely cold hardy, this heavy breed was popular in the upper Midwest for farm families. Very calm and docile, this slower growing breed, reaching full maturity in at least three years, are important meat producers. Toulouse are not good layers and are not suitable for egg production and do not forage well. Their feathers come in various shades of gray.

APPROX. 15 – 25 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 18 – 25 LB.

WHITE CHINESE

The White Chinese goose is smaller than the Embden or Toulouse. More talkative like their Brown Chinese cousins, they are one of most prolific egg laying geese available. The most distinguishing feature of the Chinese goose is that its raised knob is more prominent even than the African goose. Known to lay in the fall or winter, most Chinese geese lay from 50-60 eggs but may produce as many as 100 eggs per year. Their alertness makes them perfect to notify you to intruders. Best known for their excellent weeding due to their size, agility, and love of grass, they make excellent grazers and are often used for commercial crops.



APPROX. 45 – 55 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 11 – 15 LB.

ASSORTED GEESE

Looking for a selection of geese for both meat and egg purposes and not particular about which breeds? Then this assortment is for you! It can include the Embden, White Chinese, Toulouse and African breeds depending on availability on your hatch date. These geese will range from docile and calm to talkative and active and be a wonderful addition to your backyard pond.

APPROX. 15 – 55 EGGS/YEAR | MATURE WT: 11 – 25 LB.





TURKEYS

Gobble

UNTIL YOU WOBBLE

This is your chance to brag about the turkey you raised last summer as you're sitting down with your family and friends for Thanksgiving dinner.

There is so much pride, and much more to be thankful for, when you raise your own meat. This next Thanksgiving or family get-together, let the praising commence as your guests enjoy the tender layers of one of our turkeys that you had the pride and joy of raising. If you want turkey just in time for Thanksgiving, don't forget to order before July 4th!

**AVAILABLE TO SHIP MID MARCH – AUGUST
MINIMUM ORDER 10 (UNLESS NOTED ON CERTAIN BREEDS)
STRAIGHT RUN ONLY**

BOURBON RED

This breed received its name from being popular in Bourbon County, Kentucky. The Bourbon Red is a rare heritage breed. It matures at 20 weeks. The female will mature at 16 pounds, and the male will mature at about 25 pounds. The Bourbon Red turkey breeds true and is a purebred. **Order minimum of 20 and ships separately.**



BROAD BREASTED WHITE

This turkey is one of the most common and largest breeds available in the United States. The Broad Breasted White's size makes it a great addition to any table. The mature female weight at 20 weeks is 25 pounds, and the males will mature at about 45 pounds. **Order Minimum of 10, can be combined with Bronze Turkey**



BROAD BREASTED BRONZE

Much like the Broad Breasted White, the Bronze is still as large and meaty as its counterpart. Move this to the Broad Breasted White turkey at the end of the description. Its size makes it the perfect bird to raise on your own for holiday gatherings. The mature female weight at 20 weeks is 23 pounds, and the males will mature at about 33 pounds. **Order Minimum of 10, can be combined with White Turkey.**



ASSORTED TURKEYS

This assortment could include White Broad Breasted, Bronze Broad Breasted, Artisan Gold and Orlopp Bronze turkeys. Assortment is based on availability at the time of hatch. *The order minimum is 10.*

MORE BREEDS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT HOOVERSHATCHERY.COM



NARAGANSETT TURKEY

The Naragansett turkey originates in Naragansett Bay Rhode Island. It was there that this breed was standardized for production. These rare turkeys are medium sized and calm with beautiful black, tan, gray and white feathers. The mature female weight at 20 weeks is 17 pounds and the males mature at 30 pounds. **Order minimum of 20 and ships separately from other turkeys.**



ARTISAN GOLD

The Artisan Gold is a rare breed that is small in size and slow growing. It thrives in a free-range or alternative environment where it can express natural behaviours while maintaining a high health status. This turkey offers a robust, hearty taste that is unique in the traditional turkey market. The Artisan Gold is preferred by both producers and consumers looking for a unique look and taste. Males top out at about 20 lbs at 20 weeks while females mature in 16 weeks at 16 lbs.



Turkey Care

1

Be sure to clean and disinfect the brooder house and equipment before your young poults are placed, especially if you previously had other fowl. After disinfecting, let the brooder house dry and air out for approximately two weeks prior to placing your new poults.

2

Use clean, dry wood shavings for litter. Cover floor to the depth of 3 inches. Rice hulls or sawdust can be used for litter if covered with 2 inches of wood shavings for the first 7 to 10 days. DO NOT use straw for litter. Operate brooder stoves or heat lamps for 24 to 48 hours before arrival of poults to warm the brooder, floor, and surroundings. Start with a temperature of 105 degrees at 3 inches off the floor at the edge of the brooder area. Reduce temperature 5 degrees per week for the first 6 weeks.

3

It is important to get poults started early on feed and water. If they don't find the feed and water easily, starvation and/or dehydration can occur. Dip their beaks when the poults arrive to help them learn to drink. Start poults on a high protein (28%) turkey starter. Provide 2 linear inches of feeder space per bird from day old. From 3 weeks to market, the poults should have access to larger feeders that are about 4 inches deep and provide 3 linear inches of feeder space per bird.

4

Insoluble grit should be fed. Feed grit by sprinkling on top of the feed at the rate of one pound per 100 birds twice weekly for the first 3 weeks. Provide separate grit feeders after 3 weeks for free choice consumption.

5

Provide one square foot of floor space per poult up to 8 weeks of age. From 8 to 12 weeks, increase the floor space allowance to 2 square feet per poult. From 12 to 16 weeks, the minimum allowance is 2 1/2 square feet. It is important to observe space requirements to avoid cannibalism and feather pulling and to make sure birds get adequate feed and water.



BRAGGING RIGHTS





We're so proud of our 4-H & FFA youth, we know our future is bright because of your hard work and dedication to your animal projects! Hoover's couldn't be more proud to support you! Keep on sharing photos of those awesome ribbons and beautiful Hoover's birds!





PHEASANTS/CHUKARS

GET YOUR *Game On*

The Pheasant, one of the most common breed of birds, inhabits most of the world's continents.

The Pheasant and Chukar are some of the most gorgeous game birds, and the tastiest to eat! These birds are perfect for stocking your hunting grounds, establishing wildlife, and even for training hunting dogs.

AVAILABLE TO SHIP APRIL – JULY | MINIMUM ORDER 35 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY



CHINESE RINGNECK

The Chinese Ringneck pheasant is the most popular breed of pheasant available in the United States. The Ringneck pheasant is mostly used for hunting and stocking wildlife primarily because of its ability to fly and adaptability to the wild. Ringnecks mature at 22 weeks, and the females will be 2 pounds and the males will be about 3 pounds.



MELANISTIC MUTANT

These beautiful birds boast a dark teal and blue iridescent plumage. The Melanistic Mutant pheasant is a favorite variety to release. They have an incredible survival and reproduction rate in the wild. These birds have quickly become a favorite amongst wildlife hobbyists.



CHUKAR PARTRIDGE

The Chukar is a flighty bird and often a favorite to stock for small bird hunting. It is a stout 13 to 14-inch-long partridge, with a light brown back, grey breast, and buff belly. The face is white with a black gorget. It has rufous-streaked flanks, red legs and a coral red bill. Sexes are similar; the females are slightly smaller in size and lack the spur. ***Order Minimum 50.**



Pheasant Care

The brooder house for pheasant chicks should be weather-tight, free from drafts and rodent-proof. Clean and disinfect your brooder house at least a week or two before the birds are to arrive so it is clean and dry.

1

Use an enclosure of 12- to 14-inch high cardboard chick guard to form a draft shield and to keep the birds from having corners to pile in. Use a 3-foot circle for up to 50 birds and a 5- to 6-foot circle for 100 birds. Baby pheasants NEED 100 DEGREES to start. Red 250-watt heat bulbs work well, at least two for each 100 birds. Lower the temperature about 5 degrees a week.

2

Use a one-gallon plastic fount for 35 birds and up to a 3- to 4-gallon fount for 100. Putting marbles in the water will help the birds find the water and prevent them from getting in the water and getting wet or drowning. Put feed on feeder flats, egg flats or even paper plates for the first couple days so the birds find it easily. Regular metal reel feeders are fine after you take out the flats. Feed a 28% to 30% game bird or turkey starter. Do not use a chicken starter, as it does not contain enough protein. If you are going to release your pheasants, add oats, cracked corn or weed seed to their ration at about 4 to 6 weeks so they can identify with these foods before release.

3

Use a course dry litter for your birds. Wood shavings or clean dry straw, free of mold, can be used. If you use straw, be sure it is chopped or flattened so the baby birds can get around. If there are fine pieces in the litter, it is a good idea to cover it for a few days with burlap or even an old bed sheet, do not use paper. Keep the litter clean and dry throughout the growing period.



At day old you should provide 1/2 to 3/4 square foot of space per bird. At 3 to 6 weeks, they need one square foot and at 6 to 12 weeks four square feet per bird. Mature birds need 15 to 18 square feet of space. At 6 to 7 weeks of age, the birds can go outside in the daytime in a covered pen. The outside air will help to condition the birds for release by promoting faster feathering.

4

Pheasants are very cannibalistic. Nearly all feather pulling or worse is caused by overcrowding. Stuffy, poorly ventilated brooder spaces will also contribute to the problem. If it starts, darken the room if possible. Cover windows and doors, leaving only enough light for the birds to find the feed and water.

5

At 6 to 7 weeks is a good time to release your birds. They should be fully feathered; this is very important. If they have back and head feathers missing they will not make it past the first rain storm. Good weather for the first 48 hours after release is important.

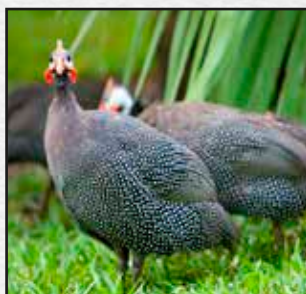
6



The Watch Dogs

Despite their calm and gentle demeanor, these birds will raise a racket if anything foreign even thinks about entering your yard or farm. They are great allies to have if you don't have a dog to protect your garden or other animals. They are lively and alert birds with beautiful plumage.

AVAILABLE TO SHIP APRIL – JULY | MINIMUM ORDER 30 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY



PEARL GUINEA

The Pearl Guinea is the most common variety of Guinea sold. They sport dark grey or black plumage with specks of white. These beautiful birds make the best watch dogs for your farm or yard. Considered one of the best domestic foragers, they will get rid of any tick or grub in your yard.

APPROX. 100 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM | MATURE WT: 3-3.5 LBS.

ASSORTED GUINEAS

A nice assortment of at least three kinds of Guineas. Hatchery choice of pearl, white, lavender, or royal purple.

Guinea Care

The brooder for baby guineas (keets) should be weather-tight, free from drafts, and rodent-proof. Clean and disinfect a week or two before the birds arrive. You can also use a high cardboard chick-guard to form a draft shield and to keep from having corners for them to pile into. Keets need 95-98 degrees to start, but they also need to be able to get well away from the heat, especially during the day. You can use a heat lamp or a brooder plate. At night, the birds should be comfortably sprawled near or under the heat source. If they are piled up, they are too cold; if they are away from the heat and panting, they are too hot. Lower the temperature about 5 degrees per week until they're fully feathered (after 6 weeks).

1

Keets need good traction underfoot. Cotton towels, rubberized shelf liner, sand, large shavings will all work. If the shavings contain small pieces, the keets may eat them, so cover with a towel the first couple of days.

2

Use a chick-waterer - several if you have 20 or more keets. Put feed on flat trays or paper plates. Guineas scratch for their food rather than pick it out of feeders.

3

Keets are susceptible to coccidiosis, so use medicated chick starter containing Amprolium, or use Corid in their water, until they develop immunity at about 6 weeks. Newly arrived keets also benefit from the addition of electrolytes in their water. You can begin to supplement their protein with dried mealworms or chopped up hardboiled eggs after a few days. You can add greens after a few days (be sure to provide grit when you do).

4

Once they're a just a few days old, keets need a lot more room in their brooder than chicks do. They are much more active and need room to run and develop their leg muscles. They will begin to be able to fly by 2 weeks. They will enjoy having roosts or items to perch on.

5

MORE GUINEA FOWL AVAILABLE ON [HOOVERSHATCHERY.COM](https://www.hoovershatchery.com)



QUAIL

THE OVERLOOKED & *Underestimated*

Many people have discovered the benefits of raising quail either alone or alongside their chicken flock. They are easy to raise, take up less space than chickens, and they lay small eggs every day! The quail is a great alternative to raise when chickens are not allowed, and we couldn't be more pleased to bring you this option!

AVAILABLE TO SHIP APRIL – JULY | MINIMUM ORDER 30 | STRAIGHT RUN ONLY



BOBWHITE

Generally, the Bobwhite Quail is known more in wildlife and hunting activities than for its domestic qualities like the eggs and meat they yield. Unlike the Coturnix, the Bobwhite is native to the U.S. and gets its name from the very sound it makes.

APPROX. 150 SMALL EGGS/YEAR | EGG COLOR: CREAM | MATURE WT: 5 – 6 OZ.

DO YOUR



CHICKEN CHORES
IN STYLE



ORDER YOURS TODAY AT
WWW.HOOVERSHATCHERY.COM

HOOVER'S HATCHERY 2020 QUICK REFERENCE

Chicken Breed	Temperament	Avg. Live Wgt Female/Male	Use	Mothering/Broodiness
Amberlink	Docile, Mellow	5.5 lb.	Layer	Seldom
Americana/Easter Egger	Docile, Friendly	5.5 lb.	Colored Eggs	Poor
Ancona	Friendly, Very Active, Vocal	4/5 lb.	Layer	Poor
Asian Black	Docile, Energetic	4/5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Barnevelder	Docile, Curious, Active, Gentle	5.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Barred Plymouth Rock	Docile, Easy to Care For	5.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Black Australorp	Docile, Calm, Good with Kids	6.5/8 lb.	Dual Purpose	Excellent
Black Sex Link	Docile, Easy to Care For	5 lb.	Layer	Seldom
Blue Andalusian	Friendly, Very Active, Vocal	5.5/7 lb.	Layer	Seldom
Blue Laced Red Wyandotte	Docile, Calm	7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Brown Leghorn	Noisy, Alert, Athletic	4 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Buckeye	Active, Gentle	6.5/9 lb.	Dual Purpose	Average
Buff Brahma	Docile, Calm, Friendly	14/18 lb.	Dual Purpose	Excellent
Buff Laced Polish	Docile, Even Tempered	4.5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Buff Orpington	Docile, Calm, Good with Kids	8 lb.	Dual Purpose	Excellent
Calico Princess	Docile, Calm, Robust	4/5 lb.	Layer	Seldom
California White	Docile, Quiet, Alert	4 lb.	Layer	Seldom
Chanteclers (Asst'd)	Docile, Calm, Gentle	7/8 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Cinnamon Queen	Docile, Easygoing	6 lb.	Layer	Good
Cochin (Lg. Breed Asst'd)	Docile, Calm, Good with Kids	8.5/11 lb.	Dual Purpose	Excellent
Columbian Wyandotte	Docile, Calm	5/7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Cornish Cross Broiler	Docile, Sedentary	6/8 lb.	Meat	No
Cuckoo Marans	Docile, Friendly	6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Great
Dark Brahma	Docile, Calm	14/18 lb.	Dual Purpose	Great
Delaware	Docile, Calm, Friendly	6.5/8.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Rarely
Dominique	Docile, Calm, Friendly	6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
English Orpingtons (Asst'd)	Docile, Calm, Gentle, Friendly	7.5/9 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
French Copper Marans	Docile, Friendly, Easily Handled	4.5/6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
French Cuckoo Marans	Docile, Friendly, Easily Handled	6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
French Wheaten Marans	Docile, Friendly, Easily Handled	6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Gold Laced Polish	Docile, Even Tempered	4.5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Golden Comet	Docile, Calm, Friendly	5/6 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Golden Laced Wyandotte	Docile, Calm	6.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good

CHICKEN BREEDS

Approx. eggs/yr	Egg Size	Egg Color	Cold Hardy	Heat Hardy	Coop/ Free Range	Purebred/ Breeds True	Heritage
270	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
240	Medium	Colored	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
220	Large	White	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
250	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
160	Large	Dk Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
250	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
250	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
265	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
280	Medium	White	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
240	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
280	Large	White	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
200	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
200	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
100	Small	White	No	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
220	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
290	Large	Cream	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
290	Large	White	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
200	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
260	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
175	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
245	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
0	N/A	Brown	N/A	N/A	Confine well	No	
175	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
200	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
260	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
245	Medium	Pink-Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
150	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
175	Medium	Dk Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
175	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
175	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
100	Small	White	No	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
260	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
200	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	

Continued on next page.

HOOVER'S HATCHERY 2020 QUICK REFERENCE

Chicken Breed	Temperament	Avg. Live Wgt Female/Male	Use	Mothering/Broodiness
Isa Brown (Gold Star)	Docile, Easy to Care For	5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Jersey (Black) Giant	Docile, Easy going	9 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Lavender Orpington	Docile, Calm, Good with Kids	8 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Light Brahma	Docile, Calm	10 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Midnight Majesty Marans	Calm, Friendly	6/7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
New Hampshire Red	Docile, Competitive, Friendly, Quiet	6.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Olive Egger	Docile, Friendly, Mellow	4.5/5.5 lb.	Colored Eggs	Rarely
Partridge Plymouth Rock	Docile, Easy to Care For	7.5/9.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Prairie Bluebell Egger	Active, Alert, Athletic, Easy Going	4/5 lb.	Colored Eggs	Rarely
Production Red	Docile, Calm	5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Rainbow	Docile, Calm, Social	6.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Rhode Island Red	Exuberant, Curious, Friendly, Roosters can be aggressive	7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Rudd Ranger (meat bird)	Docile, Active	8/11 lb.	Meat	N/A
Salmon Favorelle	Docile, Friendly, Calm, Quiet	5.5 lb.	Layer	Average
Sapphire Gem™	Docile, Easy to Care For	6/7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Seldom
Sapphire Splash	Docile, Easy to Care For	6/7 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Sapphire Olive Egger™	Docile, Active	6/7 lb.	Colored Eggs	Rarely
Silver Laced Polish	Docile, Even Tempered	4.5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Silver Laced Wyandotte	Docile, Calm, Easy Going	6/8.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Silver Lakenvelder	Active, Energetic	4/5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
Speckled Sussex	Docile, Friendly, Sweet, Gentle	5.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Spitzhauben (Appenzeller)	Active, Alert	4/5.5 lb.	Layer	Seldom
Starlight Green Egger	Active, Easy Going	4/5 lb.	Colored Eggs	Rarely
Turkens	Docile, Very friendly, Easily tamed	6.5 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
Welsummer	Docile, Calm, Friendly, Vocal	6 lb.	Dual Purpose	Rarely
White Crested Blue Polish	Docile, Even Tempered	4/5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
White Crested Black Polish	Docile, Even Tempered	4.5 lb.	Layer	Rarely
White Jersey Giant	Docile, Easy Going	9/11 lb.	Dual Purpose	Good
White Leghorn	Active, Alert, Athletic, Nervous	3.5 lb.	Layer	Rarely

*AOSB - All Other Standard Breeds

CHICKEN BREEDS

Approx. eggs/yr	Egg Size	Egg Color	Cold Hardy	Heat Hardy	Coop/ Free Range	Purebred/ Breeds True	Heritage
300	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
240	X-Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
210	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
200	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
250	Large	Dk Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
240	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
240	Medium	Colored	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
200	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
280	Medium	Blue	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
260	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
250	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
265	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
175	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Free/ Confine	No	
180	Medium	Lt Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
290	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
190	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
240	Large	Olive	Yes	Yes	Confine well	No	
110	Small	White	No	No	Confine well	Yes	*
200	Medium	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
280	Medium	White	No	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
240	Large	Cream	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
155	Medium	White	Yes	Yes	Free Range	Yes	*
280	Medium	Green	Yes	Yes	Confine Well	No	
265	Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
250	Large	Dk Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	
110	Medium	White	No	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
100	Small	White	No	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
240	X-Large	Brown	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*
290	Large	White	Yes	Yes	Confine well	Yes	*

FAQS

What happens if I have chicks that are dead upon arrival? Can I get a refund or re-ship?

We will refund or give a replacement for the death loss of birds if you report the death loss within 48 hours of arrival. If the death loss is less than 15, we only offer a refund because shipping less than 15 will result in more death loss during shipping. If the death loss is more than 15, we can offer a refund OR replacement at your discretion. As our customer, your satisfaction is our number-one priority We want to ensure you have the best experience possible. Make sure to read our Baby Chick Care section to get pertinent care information for when you receive your baby chicks.

What If I need a Health Certificate or USDA certification seal on my packing slip?

Each packing slip has a NPIP (National Poultry Improvement Plan) number in the upper right-hand corner right below our logo. If you need our actual seals put on the slip you may request this prior to ordering so we can print one out with your name and delivery address on it.

How can pullets be trained to lay in the nests instead of on the floor?

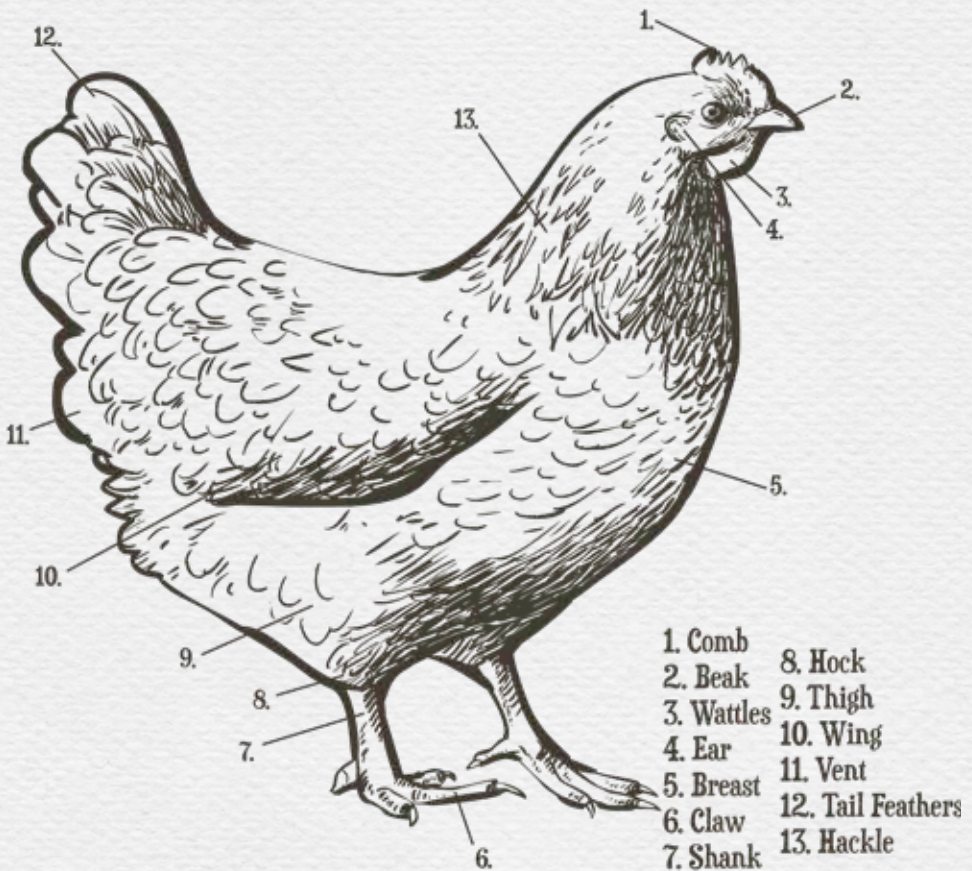
Have the nests in a convenient location and accessible to the birds. Frequently pick up floor eggs, and place them in the nests. Destroy the floor nesting sites. Place artificial eggs in the nests. Move pullets from rearing to laying pens before they start to lay.

What causes “blowouts”?

A hen coming into production earlier than normal can produce double-yolked eggs and blowouts can occur. An older hen experiencing a “blowout” can be the result of excessive fat in the abdominal cavity. Whole oats can be added to the ration to help eliminate the excessive fat. Also, it may be that cannibalism results after “blowout.” The birds see blood and start picking at the hen.

What is “pasty butt”?

Sometimes stress from the shipping process will cause manure to build up around your chicks’ vents. This issue is called pasty butt, or rear end pasting. This can happen in the shipping process or when chicks are stressed in any way. Solution – use a warm, damp washcloth to get rid of the build up. Take care not to pull out the delicate down feathers.



Parts of a Hen



Get Social

Connecting with our customers is our passion. It's our mission to make this world a little smaller and our connection with you a little more personal. That's why we love to hear from our customers! Follow us online and share your stories, pictures, or just stop by to say hello.

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WHAT IS Salmonella?

Salmonella spreads to people through contaminated food (eggs and meat) or droppings of certain animals, including backyard poultry and fowl. Live fowl like chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys, might have Salmonella in their droppings and on their bodies (feathers, feet, and beaks), even when they appear healthy and clean. While it usually doesn't make the birds sick, Salmonella can cause serious illness when it is passed to people.*

Shell eggs may become contaminated with Salmonella through the laying process, once the eggs are laid, through poultry feed or bedding. To keep your family healthy, follow the tips below when collecting and handling eggs from a backyard flock:

- 1. Always wash your hands with soap and water after handling eggs, chickens, or anything in their environment.**
 - Adults should supervise handwashing by young children.
 - Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.
- 2. Maintain a clean coop. Cleaning the coop, floor, nests and perches on a regular basis will help to keep eggs clean.**
- 3. Do not wash feed and water chickens indoors or in areas where food is stored or prepared such as the kitchen sink.**
- 4. Don't let children younger than 5 years, adults older than 65, or people with weakened immune systems from conditions such as cancer treatment, HIV/AIDS or organ transplants, handle or touch chicks, ducklings, or other live poultry.**
- 5. Collect eggs often. Eggs that spend a significant amount of time in the nest can become dirty or break. Cracked eggs should be thrown away.**
- 6. Eggs with dirt and debris can be cleaned with fine sandpaper, a brush or cloth. Don't wash eggs, because colder water can pull bacteria into the egg.**
- 7. Refrigerate eggs after collection.**
- 8. Cook eggs thoroughly. Raw and undercooked eggs contain Salmonella bacteria that can make you sick.**
- 9. Know the local regulations around sale of eggs. If you sell eggs, it is important to follow local licensing requirements.**

**Source: CDC Backyard Poultry*

PROTECTING YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY FROM SALMONELLA



Always wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water after touching live poultry or anything associated with your flock. Hand sanitizer can be used if soap and water are unavailable.



Children younger than 5 years old, people with weak immune systems, or the elderly should not handle or touch live chickens or other live fowl.



Live poultry should never enter your house, especially bathrooms, or living areas where food and drink is served, stored, or prepared.



Live poultry should never be snuggled, kissed, or held near human mouths.



Maintain a clean coop. Cleaning the coop, floor, nests and perches on a regular basis will help to keep eggs clean.



Buy birds from hatcheries like Hoover's Hatchery that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Poultry Improvement Plan (USDA-NPIP).

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/pets/farm-animals/backyard-poultry.html>



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