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## TIME

Before Bringing New Chicks Home



- o Purchase or create a safe brooder with an adjustable heat lamp and use a of soft bedding such as with Manna Pro Fresh Flakes™ to keep your chicks dry and comfortable.
  - o Tip: Use a household thermometer to monitor the brooder temperature
  - # o Too Hot: Chicks or ducklings are hugging the brooder wall
  - 🔆 o Too Cold: Chicks or ducklings are huddled together



- o Pick up your chicks at your local farm and home store or order online. You will also want to purchase a complete starter-grower feed, a feeder and a drinker.
  - o Tip: Start with quart size feeders and drinkers that are small enough to fit into the brooder



- o Chicks will get new primary feathers and develop a social order. Once fully feathered you can transition from the brooder to the coop. Add chick grit to support healthy digestion.
  - o Tip: Provide a Manna Pro Chick Stick™ in the brooder and coop to keep chicks occupied



- o You now have a pullet, or a teenage female chick, and should gradually transition from a chick starter-grower feed to a layer crumble or pellet. This is a great time to also add a supplement to support hearty egg development and strong shells.
  - o Tip: Mix your starter-grower feed with your layer crumble or pellet feed for a week to ensure an easy transition for your chicks



- o Eggs are on the way! Depending on the chicken breed and their environment, you can expect their first egg soon. Don't forget to reward your girls with a tasty treat!
  - o Tip: Place a ceramic egg in your nesting box to encourage laying













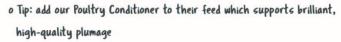


Taking Care of your Chicken now that it has Matured



- o New hens will not molt until the following year but when they do, they are replacing old, worn out feathers.
- o Typically molt in ...
  - \* late summer
  - early autumn



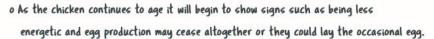




- o Chickens may become "broody" at times and want to hatch their eggs.
- o This process can go on for several days before the broodiness ends.
- o When this happens they must be removed from their nest and placed in the yard.
  - o Tip: You can give treats to keep her in the yard, try our Mealworm Munchies which are high in nutritious protein and fat.



- o Most hens lay well for the first year, but egg production typically slows down in the second year and beyond.
- o The majority of chickens will still lay, but their output will be noticeably less.
  - o Tip: For a safe & gentle alternative to detergents, consider using our Egg Cleanser to remove dirt, grime, and other contaminants from your eggs.



- o Tip: Consider switching their feed to our Golden Girls senior crumbles which supports overall health and well-being of older hens
- o Depending on your breed, your chicken could live anywhere from 3 years to 20 years at the extreme end of the spectrum with the average between 5 to 8 years.









