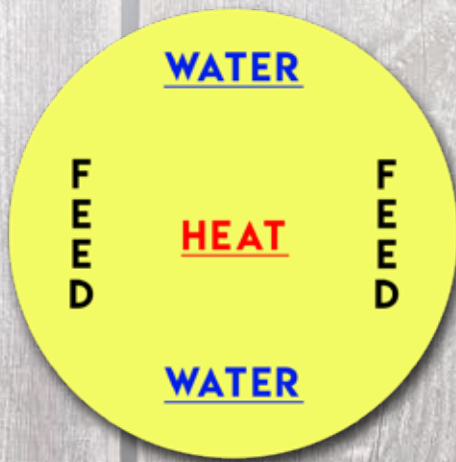




## Before You Buy

- Research the type and breed characteristics for your situation.
- Clean and disinfect the area, waterers and feeders if they have been previously used.
- Setup and heat brooder ring 24 hours ahead of time.
- Bed the brooder with absorbent litter or shavings.



## Brooder Temperature Tips

- Provide a heat source in the center of brooding area
- Test temperatures at the chicks' level – approximately 6 inches from the floor
- During the first week, heat at 95°F
- Lower temperatures 5°F each week until you reach a temperature of 70°F

## When You Buy

- Purchase chicks from well known, National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) approved hatcheries.

## Once They're Home

- Keep dry, protected from cold, drafts, entry by other animals.
- Observe chicks to ensure they are comfortable, and spread uniformly under the heat source.
- Provide fresh, clean, room-temperature water at all times.
- Clean waterers daily.
- Provide a waterer that will restrict bathing (no open containers).
- Add a stress pack (electrolytes and vitamins) for the first 1-2 weeks.

## Backyard Biosecurity

- Disinfect feeders, waterers, brooders, pens and coops before introducing new birds to the area
- Thoroughly wash your hands after cleaning or working in the chicks' environment.
- Don't introduce unnecessary visitors to your flock.
- Quarantine new birds from the existing flock for 30 days to avoid introducing new diseases.
- Supervise children when handling poultry. Do not nuzzle or kiss chicks, and wash up when through with handling.
- Always report sick birds to your State Veterinarian.



# Choosing the Right Feed

## Start with Poulin Grain Chick Starter Crumbles

- Formulated to give chicks a healthy start and build a strong frame.
- Feed 2-3lbs per week per bird for 6 weeks (12-18lbs per chick)

## Broilers

- Feed Chick Starter Crumbles for the first 2 weeks or Quik Grow Broiler Crumbles.
- Quik Grow Broiler Crumbles can then be fed from 2 weeks until market size.
- It will take approximately 12lbs of feed and 6-7 weeks to raise one broiler to market weight.

## Layers

- At 6-8 weeks switch to Poultry Grower Finisher Crumble (12-13lbs per bird during the 12 week period).
- When they begin to lay (5-6 months of age), switch to Layer Pellet, Mash, Crumble, or Egg Production Plus Crumble.
- Layers need 14-16 hours of light per day to produce eggs.
- 10 birds should produce 8 to 10 eggs per day.
- You will need 100 to 195 pounds of feed to produce about 20 dozen eggs per bird in 13 months (.25-.50lbs of feed per day per bird).

## Turkeys

- Start with a 5°F higher temperature in the brooder.
- Begin with Turkey/Gamebird Starter Crumble from 1-6 weeks of age.
- At 6-8 weeks of age switch to Turkey/ Gamebird Grower/ Finisher Pellet.
- Depending on breed, your bird will mature in five months and weigh from 18 to 40 lbs. (about 80lbs of feed to raise to maturity).

## Game Birds

- Feed Turkey/ Gamebird Starter Crumble or Gamebird Starter/ Grower Crumble for the first 8 weeks.
- Transition to Turkey/ Gamebird Grower/ Finisher Pellet up to market size at about 14-16 weeks.
- Mature breeders can continue to be fed Turkey/ Gamebird Grower/ Finisher Pellet.

## Ducks and Geese

- Do not feed medicated feeds/water
- Feed Chick Starter Crumbles up to 4 weeks.
- At 4-5 weeks, switch to Poultry Grower Finisher Crumble for pets.
- For meat birds, feed Quik Grow Broiler Crumbles from 4 weeks until market size (8 weeks).
- For layers, switch to Layer Pellet, Mash, Crumble, or Egg Production Plus when birds begin to lay.

