



# Chicks CHECKLIST



## NEW CHICK SUPPLY LIST

- Chick Starter Feed**  
HELPFUL HINT: Egg layers and meat birds have different starter feeds.
- Vitamin and Electrolyte Plus**  
HELPFUL HINT: Add to chicks' drinking water—supports hydration and health, can be mixed with chick probiotic.
- Chick Probiotic**  
HELPFUL HINT: Add to chicks' drinking water—promotes a healthy digestive tract, can be mixed with chick vitamin and electrolyte plus.
- Feeder**  
HELPFUL HINT: There are lots of styles and sizes to choose from—take a look around. Ask if you have questions. We are happy to help!
- Waterer**  
HELPFUL HINT: There are lots of styles and sizes to choose from—take a look around. Ask if you have questions. We are happy to help!
- Heat Lamp and Bulb**  
HELPFUL HINT: Always have replacement bulbs on hand—chicks need to stay warm!
- Brooder Box**  
HELPFUL HINT: A stock tank or plastic tub works great.
- Wood Shavings**  
HELPFUL HINT: Pine shavings are best—avoid cedar.
- Oyster Shell**  
HELPFUL HINT: Have some available at 4 weeks of age—hens that need oyster shell will take it to help with eggshell hardness.
- Poultry Grit**  
HELPFUL HINT: As chicks grow, provide grit. Grit helps grind down the food in the gizzard, keeping their digestive system happy.
- Pecks-No-More**  
HELPFUL HINT: Have on hand as a peck deterrent—especially if you're blending flocks.
- Place to Live**  
HELPFUL HINT: Your chicks will grow! They will need a full-time place to live after they leave their brooder box. There are lots of styles and sizes to choose from—take a look around. Ask if you have questions. We are happy to help!
- Fencing or Netting**  
HELPFUL HINT: Keep chickens in and predators out.

HELPFUL HINT:  
We sell a handy  
kit that includes  
all of these—  
ready to go!

## WELCOME HOME

Before your new chicks make their way home, have a brooder set up completely and make sure it is nice and warm for them after their long journey! While putting your chicks in their brooder, gently dip their beaks in their water so they know where to find it later. Watch your chicks to see if their heat lamp is providing enough heat. If chicks are clumped together, they are too cold. If they are sleeping out on the edges and near their waterer, they are too hot. Comfortable chicks will sleep under their heat lamp and not huddled together. A good rule of thumb is to keep chicks at 95 degrees and reduce the temperature by 5 degrees each week.

## DAILY CARE



Chicks are babies and need special care for the first few weeks. Electrolytes and vitamins can be added to their water to help them recover from their long journey to your house. Clean their waterer thoroughly and daily to get leftover residue out before filling it again with fresh, cool water. Keep their food dish full and free from debris and shavings. Throw away their shavings and refill the brooder with new, clean shavings daily to give them a comfortable bed to sleep on.

## CHICK AGE MILESTONES

- 1-4 Weeks: Baby Chick
- 5-15 Weeks: Teenage Chick
- 16-17 Weeks: Egg Laying Prep
- 18 Weeks: Egg Laying
- 18 Months: First Molt
- 6+ Years: Retirement

## CHICK TERMINOLOGY

### Brooder

The container or space that you raise chicks in before they move to a coop.

### Pullet/Cockerel

Pullet: female chick

Cockerel: male chick