



Backyard Chicken Start-Up Checklist

1) Local Rules

- Check your city/municipality bylaws
- Confirm how many hens are allowed
- Confirm if roosters are permitted
- Check minimum lot size / zoning requirements
- Review setback rules
- Check permit requirements

2) Coop Essentials

- Proper coop size (at least 3 sq ft per chicken)
- Predator-proof structure
- Good ventilation without drafts
- Weather protection
- Solid roof
- Nesting boxes (1 per 3–4 hens)
- Roosting bars (8–10 in per chicken)

3) Outdoor Run

- Covered run
- Hardware cloth protection
- Dig-proof perimeter
- Shade area

4) Coop Readiness

- Chicken Feeder (size depending on size of chickens)
- Waterer (heated option needed for winters)
- Bedding material (Pine wood shavings, sand, additional options)

5) Getting Chickens

- Purchase incubator and fertilized eggs to hatch yourself
- Buy from a reputable breeder

6) Ongoing Care

- Purchase feed based on age (grower vs layer requirements)
- Daily feed & water
- Weekly check in
- Monthly inspection
- Seasonal preparation

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Prepared by The Chicken Coop Factory