

# New Chick Checklist

## Things you will need:

- Chick Feeder(s).** We have traditional chick feeders in different sizes. You can also use a DIY version like a small bowl or cat dish. You will need 4 inches of feeder space per chick.
- Chick Waterer(s).** We have traditional chick waterers in different sizes. Chick waterers are specifically designed to prevent chicks from drowning in the water and releasing just the right amount, so it is not spilled and wasted.
- Chick Feed.** Your choices include medicated and non-medicated chick starter, often called hatch to hen. Medicated helps protect against coccidiosis. We also have an Organic option.

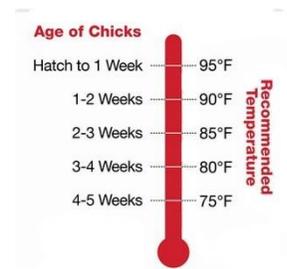
You can feed small pieces of food. No spoiled or moldy feed or food. NO avacados – they are poisonous to all types of birds.

- Chick Boost.** When new chicks come home, they can be exhausted and stressed. Chick Boost vitamins and electrolytes are easily mixed in their water and give chicks a great start to life. Use for the first few days at home. It is also good for heat/cold stress, illness, molting or other stressful events.
- Heat Lamp & Light Bulb.** Chicks need to stay warm! A reliable heat lamp is one of, if not *the* most, important tool you need for raising chicks. It is best to use a 250-Watt heat blub. Let them cool before touching or changing. They will pop/explode if splashed with water. Make sure flammable objects are 3-4 feet away.

If they are too hot, they will stand away from the light

If they are too cold, they will constantly huddle under the light

If they are just right, they will move about freely



- Brooder.** Some sort of box or bin to house the chicks until they are ready to move into their coop. You could use a tote, bin, cage, box, bathtub, etc. Be creative!
- Bedding.** Chicks need bedding to live on to keep their brooder clean and to prevent them from slipping and injuring themselves. Use straw or wood chips (not cedar) as they are the safest. Newspaper is not recommended as it wets easily and becomes slippery.
- Handling.** Chicks are fragile. Make sure young children are supervised while handling baby chicks. Be sure to wash hands with hot soap and water after handling.

Fresh food, water, and cleanliness are key to healthy chicks and adult birds.

## Other items that are helpful but not necessary:

- **Scoop or Hand Rake.** This is simply a time saving tool but is not necessary. A tiny hand rake or scoop can help you clean out the poos in the brooder without dumping the entire thing!
- **Electric Thermometer.** Not necessary but a helpful tool, an electric thermometer can be placed directly under the heat lamp to let you know how warm the brooder is!
- **Chick Grit.** If you plan to give your chicks treats other than their starter feed, you will need to feed them grit of the appropriate size.