



Learn about your Chick Chain options

Buff Orpington - Brown Egg Layers



The first Orpingtons were black and originated in the town of Orpington in County Kent from Black Langshans, Black Minorcas and Black Plymouth Rocks with Cochin blood being introduced later. Today, Buff Orpingtons are the most popular variety of Orpingtons, used primarily for production of brown eggs. Buff Orpington chicks are light buff or straw colored throughout. They have single combs and clean, white legs and feet. Adults have golden buff plumage and pinkish white beaks, shanks and toes. They are a heavy, but loosely feathered, appearing to be much heavier than their true weight. They lay on average 200 eggs a year, very docile, and broody.

White Leghorn - White Egg Layers

Leghorns originated in Italy prior to 1815 and first came to North America in 1828 where they were initially known as Italians. Most of the color varieties of Leghorns were developed in Great Britain, America and Denmark. White Leghorn chicks are pale yellow or creamy white. They have single combs and clean, yellow legs and feet. All of the adult plumage is white with a few black spots. Not known for broodiness or docility. Lays on average 280 eggs a year.



Barred Plymouth Rocks



Plymouth Rocks were developed from a cross of Dominique males and either Black Java or Black Cochin females. The original Plymouth Rock had a barred plumage pattern and was considered the most popular breed in the United States in the early 20th Century, used for both meat and brown egg production. Barred Plymouth Rock chicks are black with a white spot on top of the head. The wing tips and abdomen are white. They have single combs and clean, yellow and black legs and feet. All the adult plumage is barred, black and white. Because of the nature of the sex-linked barred gene, the adult females are darker than the males. Docile, and Broody birds lay on average of 240 eggs per year.





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New Hampshire Red - Brown Egg Layers

New Hampshire Reds were developed in the early 1900's with Rhode Island Reds as the foundation stock. They were selected for early growth and maturity, meat production and production of large brown eggs. New Hampshire Red chicks are light red with lighter chests and wing tips. They have single combs and clean, yellow legs and feet. Adult plumage is primarily chestnut red with a black tail. Males will appear to be slightly darker because the male sickle, hackle, back, covert and wing bow plumage is a deeper chestnut color.

Reminders about Chick Chain

- applications due January 21, 2024 to our office, not the school
- any questions contact Mrs. Jessica - jessicawsmith@utk.edu or 865-376-5558
- remind code for chick chain - @4HChicken2

On your iPhone or Android phone,
open your web browser and go to
the following link:

rmd.at/4hchicken2

Follow the instructions to sign up
for Remind. You'll be prompted to
download the mobile app.

