

Backyard Chicken Basics

BACKYARD CHICKEN

BASICS



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Are you interested in keeping backyard chickens? Here is some basic information to get you started.

- Some municipalities do not allow backyard chickens, or have strict ordinances to regulate them. Be sure to check what your city allows or requires before setting up a coop.
- Purchase chicks from sources that certify they are free from specific diseases.
- You may end up with a rooster among your chicks. Be prepared to part ways with the roosters—hens do not need a rooster present in order to lay eggs.
- Chickens are no respecters of property lines, and they can fly. To minimize the impact on neighbors, enclosures should properly restrain poultry and confine them to your property.
- Chickens have a relatively short life span. The productive life of a hen is about three to five years.
- Where there are chickens, there are rodents. Take this into consideration when planning your coop, and implement a rodent control program.
- Don't keep chickens with ducks or turkeys. Mixing of species increases the potential for infection and spread of avian influenza (bird flu).

Find Out More

Explore the Garden Family Night: Backyard Chickens

USU Botanical Center, Kaysville

[Register Here](#)

Raising backyard chickens has become very popular in Davis County. This event will teach families how to properly choose the right breed of backyard chicken, identify common diseases, nutrition, egg/layer management, and answer questions.

Participants will learn about the 4-H youth poultry program opportunities in Davis County as well.

Fact Sheet: [Basics for Raising Backyard Chickens](#)

Fact Sheet: [Considerations in Raising Small Backyard Flocks of Poultry in Population-dense Communities](#)