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# Best Chicken Breeds: 12 Types Of Hens That Lay Lots Of Eggs, Make Good Pets, And Fit In Small Yards (Booklet)



## Synopsis

New on Overview of the best chicken breeds for backyards, including full color pictures of each type. Learn which types of hens lay the most eggs, have friendly and calm personalities, and fit well in small city back yards. Written by the author of the best-selling Fresh Food From Small Spaces book, a former columnist for Urban Farm magazine. (Updated 2014 Version) Topics Include: How This Information Can Help You How This Information Can Help You Rainbow Eggs: White, Blue, Green, Dark Chocolate Brown, and More Importance of Hatching Eggs and Handling Chicks Early Each Chicken is an Individual Best Breeds: 12 types of hens that lay lots of eggs, have friendly and calm temperaments, and fit in city backyards Bonus: 5 Exotic Poultry Chicken Breeds for backyards: wait until you see these! Resources Section: Links to additional information on chicken breeds, plus where to obtain your chickens Be Sure to Read This Before You Get Chickens Thinking about getting chickens? Not sure what kind is best? If you're ready to learn which types of hens lay lots of eggs on a regular basis, make good pets, and fit happily in small sized yards, you've come to the right place. This e-booklet provides you with information on 12 types of chickens which are best suited for a small back yard flock. Plus Bonus Section: 5 Exotic Breeds for Backyards Also included is a bonus chapter covering 5 Exotic Poultry Chicken Breeds which are also suitable for backyards. If you've never seen a bird that looks like a chicken crossed with a turkey, another one with a head resembling a feather duster, a third that looks more like a rabbit than a chicken, a hen that lays dark chocolate brown eggs, and a one pound chicken 6-12 inches tall that people keep as an indoor pet, then prepare to meet some new friends! Amazingly, each of these has a friendly personality and all can make good pets. There's a lot of free information online about different kinds of chickens. It's great to have this available, but sorting through it can take a lot of time. When I decided to get chickens, I spent many hours researching different chicken breeds in books and on the Internet. At the time, I had a small yard in the city. The only thing I knew about chickens was that the hens lay the eggs and the roosters make most of the noise! From my research, I learned that there are as many as 175 different kinds of chickens in the world. However, only 12 chicken breeds met my criteria, which were: Regular and prolific egg layers Comfortable in an enclosed coop and run area Preferably, not too loud Friendly around people Save Time and Money It would take you at least two or three hours just to find this information, even before you sort through, read, and analyze it. Instead, I've put all the important stuff in this short booklet (which only appears longer because of all the chicken pictures, another essential element for people choosing breeds). I've summarized the lengthy raw material from my

own research, selected the best breeds for backyards, and presented this information in a format you can use. Don't Get the Wrong Kind of Chickens! Be sure to read this booklet before you get chickens! Don't make the mistake of getting the wrong kind of chickens for your small yard. The wrong kinds can eat lots of food, get fat, and lay few eggs. They can be loud, aggressive, obnoxious, or scared of people. The right kinds will lay eggs almost every day, stay calm and quiet, let you pick them up and pet them, and will not mind being kept in a coop and fenced area!

## **Book Information**

File Size: 2005 KB

Print Length: 47 pages

Publication Date: January 2, 2014

Sold by: Â Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B008JI3M6O

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #147,804 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #14

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## **Customer Reviews**

I really enjoyed this little ebook. It is exactly what it says it is. My plan is to buy chicks next spring so I am in the research phase. Just as Ruppenthal describes, I am looking for a short list of egg laying, docile and hardy breeds that are ideal for my urban Minnesota backyard flock. This ebook is exactly that. Good little resource. I also purchased the other chicken book by the same author and look forward to reading it as well.

I could see being charged \$2.00 for this book including shipping. It does give the info that the title promises basically a list of chickens that lay a lot of eggs and don't mind being in a smaller

enclosure. With about as much detail as you would get out of a chicken catalog. If you have a Kindle or the Kindle App, get the book in that format instead of print. I guess I expected maybe some personal anecdotes or something to add to why one chicken is better than another. Perhaps having researched and read other chicken books to gain some insight into what birds to buy had this been the first book I read it could have been helpful. But really just a chicken catalog like Murray McMurray Hatchery gives you almost the same info. I can't fault the author. If I "looked inside" first I would have seen enough of the content to realize that it really was a book for someone who simply didn't feel like preparing for getting chickens and doing their own research and just wanted to jump in headlong. If you have zero knowledge of chickens and want some info to point you in the right direction then this will fit the bill.

This book is as good as all his other books. They are short but contains a lot of information without any unnecessary talk.

I give his book a B+ as it does provide basic accurate and interesting information about chickens for those who have not had a flock before. The assessment of breeds suitable for a small flock is right on. We have a mixed flock at our farm of over 26 hens and two roosters. We have successfully added in new birds from time to time---which is an art, to say the least. If you have a small flock and find that you must add birds, set up a separate area where the birds can see, but not attack each other ---let that area stay separate for over 2 weeks. At the end of that period, wait for dusk, then remove the dividing barrier. For some reason, on awakening, the hens don't notice that the fence is not there! I would put Faverolles a bit higher on the list, for while they don't lay the most eggs, they have very sweet, protective and romantic roosters who are kind to the girls, not overbearing. They also do well with children and dogs which is hard to beat if you have visitors who want to see the flock or collect eggs. I certainly agreed heartily with the breeds recommended for regular egg layers with a first time owner. This is good information, well written and clear.

I'm very glad I bought this book -- it's well worth it! Yes, I probably could have tracked down all this info by research, but here it is in a handy format for comparison. It was clearly presented and easy to follow; a quick read. Only reason for 4 stars instead of 5 was the reference to a breed that lays "2-34 eggs" per week -- an obvious proofing error, but misinformation nonetheless. As someone ready to add to our backyard chicken population, I was delighted with the helpful information on suggested breeds. This is just the resource I needed before ordering chicks at the local farm store,

plus it inspired me to try some breeds I might not have considered. I love learning about the background of the breeds, too. Suggested websites from the author will be interesting to explore, and I'll be looking to see what else he has written, as well. Recommended!

## GOOD WAY TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF BEFORE BUYING CHICKENS AND RAISING THEM.

I have three suggestions for potential buyers of chickens: #1 Buy this book! #2 Buy This Book!! #3 BUY THIS BOOK!!! Seriously folks, this small tome has an enormous amount of highly useable information. While too short to be dispositive on a broad subject, it will impart to you much valuable insight, and you will love the concise descriptions along with the beautiful pictures. I give it an A+++.

The author is a natural writer and very thorough in his approach. He will improve your thinking on the subject. It is a fast read and I learned a lot. Oh, did I mention? Buy this book, you won't be sorry.

This book was very helpful in determining which type of chickens we will get. I like that it talks about the breeds chickens available and what they like and dislike. Which climates certain breeds do better in and which breed you may look at based on how many eggs you anticipate needing. It even has a guide as to which chickens are "kid friendly". This was such an easy book to follow I am thinking of having my children read it for school and have them complete a project on the top 3 chickens they think we should get, based on the information in this book. Definitely will be pulling this back off the shelf when the time comes to purchase the chickens.

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