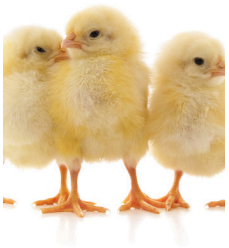
FLOCK GROWTH TIMELINE

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO YOUR FLOCK'S GROWTH. FROM BABY FLUFF TO FIRST EGGS AND BEYOND



1

WHAT TO EXPECT — WEEKS 1-4

- Tiny fluffballs needing constant warmth.
- Sleep in piles, chirp softly, and explore food/water.
- Begin to recognize your voice and hands, start gentle handling.
- Pin feathers start replacing fluff by week 2–3.
- They'll learn to perch, dust bathe in bedding, and show early pecking order behavior.

BABY CHICKS (THE BROODER STAGE) MILESTONES

✅ First feathers appear (wings, chest)
✅ Start perching on small sticks
✅ First "mini dust bath" attempts
✅ Brooder curiosity grows. pecking, stretching, preening

1





2

WHAT TO EXPECT — WEEKS 5-15

- Fully feathered and ready for outdoor life!
- Personalities emerge (brave explorers, chatterboxes, or shy ones).
- Roosters may start to spar or "practice crowing."
- They'll test the roosts and explore the run.
- Expect awkward phases, patchy feathers, lanky legs, and sass!

THE TEENAGE CHICKEN STAGE (PULLETS & COCKERELS) MILESTONES

✅ Transition to grower feed (around 6 weeks)
✅ Move from brooder to coop (once nights stay warm enough)
✅ First time roosting in the coop
✅ Developing social hierarchy (you'll see squabbles but it's normal)

2



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3

WHAT TO EXPECT — WEEKS 16-17

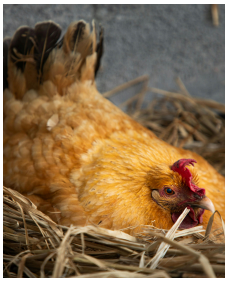
- Pullets and cockerels are nearly grown but still maturing internally.
- Comb and wattles deepen in color, a sign that egg-laying is near.
- Calcium needs begin to rise.

THE TRANSITION PERIOD — MILESTONES

✅ Gradually switch from grower feed to layer feed (mix 50/50 for a week).
✅ Offer free-choice oyster shell for calcium once they're close to laying.

3





4

WHAT TO EXPECT — WEEK 18

- Pullets may start "squatting" (a sign she's about to lay).
- You'll notice nesting box curiosity, like sitting, scratching, and rearranging bedding.
- First eggs are often small or oddly shaped, but they normalize quickly.

FIRST EGG! — MILESTONES

✅ First egg!
✅ Consistent laying pattern begins within a few weeks.
✅ Celebrate with extra protein or a special treat.

4



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