

The First 24 Hours

Before Chicks Arrive

• Provide chicks with clean, bio-secure housing



- Spread litter evenly to a depth of 2-5 cm (0.8-2.0 in)
- Feed form: dust free sieved crumb or 2mm (0.08in) mini pellet
- Add 40g (0.09 lb) of feed per chick to the paper.

- Pre-heat the house at least 24 hours prior to chick arrival
- Air temperature (at chick height)
 - Whole house: 30°C/86.0°F
 - Spot Brooding
 - 32°C/89.6°F at brooder edge
 - 29°C/84.2°F at 2 m (6.6 ft) from brooder edge
- Litter temperature: 28-32°C/82.4-89.6°F
- Floor temperature: 28-30°C / 82.4-86.0°F
- Relative humidity of 60-70%
- Air speed < 0.15 m/s (30 ft/min)
- Arrange equipment to allow unrestricted access to feed and water
- Position supplementary drinkers near automated system



Chick Arrival

- Weigh a sample of chicks (3 boxes or 1% of the house whichever is greater), record average live weight and CV% / uniformity%
- Check chick vent temperatures (39.4-40.5°C / 103-105°F)
- Place chicks quickly, gently and evenly onto paper
- Ensure feed and water is available
- Light intensity should be 30-40 lux (2.8-3.7 foot candles)









Post Chick Placement

- Check chick behavior after 1-2 hours
- Adjust environment in response to chick behavior

- Ventilation (without drafts) is required to provide fresh air and remove waste gas, excess moisture and heat
- Supply small, frequent top ups of feed

Chicks too cold

Chicks comfortable

Chicks too hot

- Check water supply is working and that supplementary drinkers contain fresh, clean water
- Check chick crop fill

Time After Placement	2 hours	4 hours	8 hours	12 hours	24 hours
Target Crop Fill (% of chicks with full crops)	75	80	>80	>85	>95

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