

**How To Easily Make \$1000
a Month Raising Chickens
Part Time**



**This book will show you the easiest
and best methods of easily making
\$1000 a month raising chickens**

It is not as hard as you think!

*If You Are Serious About Making Money
Raising Chickens, Then Please Read On!*

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HOW TO EASILY MAKE \$1000 A MONTH RAISING CHICKENS PART TIME

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Introduction to starting a business raising chickens

In the past, people liked to keep chickens because they were cheap to get and they were easy to care for. They would polish off the family's leftovers, keep the bugs off garden plants and they did not need to be refrigerated. One chicken for supper would generally be gone the next day. In today's world things are different. Thanks in large part to "The Colonel", the United States as well as many other countries have discovered the joy of a bucket to go.

Poultry farming is a major business in today's world. With an estimated 3.8 billion chickens (producing more than 390 billion eggs each year) in the world today, it is no wonder that anyone would consider raising chickens for fun or profit. So, how do we start raising chickens for profit?

In order to raise chickens you must live in an area that has been zoned agricultural (check with your local zoning board). Once you have determined that you have the proper zoning for your land, you will have to seek permits to build your chicken barn. Make sure that you cross all of your T's!

Egg production in the United States covers a great portion of the poultry industry, and you should decide if you wish to pursue the chicken (meat) or the egg or just buying and selling chickens, which is what I do. You should figure that you will need a large number of chickens in order to achieve success in any poultry endeavor that uses the chickens for meat or eggs. You will also need to continually grow your stock by 5% a year minimum.

This means having room for expansion and cash flow for feed and supplements.

You may be in need of some help if you choose to house a large number of birds, and you might need to seek the employment of a full time work force. If you offer someone a place to live at a reduced rate, you will be able to find an honest and hardworking person to fill this position easily. They must be willing to put in long hours, feed/water flock, clean up after the chickens, to inspect operation and remove waste. They should be able to operate farm equipment in a professional manner, and perform general upkeep and maintenance on any machinery.

Remember to check with your local government as to any tax benefits you could receive from the operation of your business.

Have a sound prewritten business plan created for you so that you will be able to gain financial backing easier and make sure that you focus on your marketing plan. Do not go into your financier's office "half cocked". Having your brilliant plan on paper for the entire world to see will help them to imagine their future rewards as well as yours!

What type of chickens are available?

There are many, many types of chickens to choose from. Here are some, categorized into specialty areas.

Layers / egg producers:

Meat Production Breeds / meat producers:

Dual Purpose Breeds / meat and egg producers:

Bantams / space economy

Show Birds / competition and aesthetics

Breeds for feathers / feathers used in commercial ventures

Gamefowl / hobby chickens---Which are my Favorite!



What type of chicken breeds work best for business & why?

Layers usually begin to produce eggs at approximately five months of age, laying around 250 - 280 eggs per year. They generally will continue laying for a decade. For the most part, laying hens do their best work in their first productive year, and taper off after that.

The best layers are Leghorns (white egg layers), although their personality tends to be lacking. They are followed by the Production Red (brown egg layers), a cross between Rhode Island Reds and New Hampshire. The top rated meat producer is the Cornish Rock (a cross of Cornish and Plymouth Rock breeds), a commercial broiler which has been bred for the purpose of gaining weight at a rapid pace. They tend to become overweight easily; which can prevent them from laying an abundance of eggs. Since the meat chickens are butchered at six to eight lbs., keep in mind that you need a bird that will gain quickly, while consuming the least feed. Some other breeds that are quality meat producers include Brahmas, Cochins, and Cornish.

If you are looking for a good dual sport chicken; one that will supply eggs as well as meat (though not in the same amount), consider the Dominiques, Plymouth Rocks, Sussex, Orpington, and Wyandottes. They tend to be a sturdy chicken that do not require much tending to. They supply brown eggs, and are good mothers to chicks.

When choosing a chicken for some other reason than meat or eggs, the Bantams would be on the top of this list. They are a miniature chicken, more for feather quality or show than anything else. The benefit would be one of space. They produce small eggs and the meat is one quarter less than the average meat type bird. Even though some tend toward "snippy" in their attitude, they are largely sociable birds and the hens of this breed are excellent sitters.

Show chickens are ornamental or exhibition fowl, bred specifically for their looks and their confirmation. They are bred to confirm to the American Poultry Association and the American Bantam Association standards than their economic value. Some popular show breeds include Cochin Bantams, Sebright Bantams, Light Brahma Bantams, Mottled Houdans, Silver Polish, Sultan, and Turkeys.

The chicks can cost up to \$500.00 per 100
200 chicks sold per month = \$1,000

Breeds for feathers include the Plymouth Rock, Blue Andalusian, Buff Minorca, and Silver Penciled Wyandotte roosters are the best of the best when it comes to the quality of feathers, with Bantams producing more of the small and fine feathers. These are generally used in the production of lures used in fly fishing and if you find someone who needs a supplier, some of these feathers can be sold for big profits as well.



**GAMEFOWL
MY FAVORITE!**

As far as Gamefowl go, the history behind them is almost as fascinating as the look of the bird itself. Gamefowl date back many hundreds of years, and have been raised (in one form or fashion) from one end of the planet to the other. Today they are bred more out of tradition and for show as opposed to yesteryear when they were labeled "pit" chickens. They are a beautiful bird, and some popular lines include the Pure Doc Hatch, Grey's, and Pure Lacy Roundheads, Pure Yellow Legged Hatch (Herman Pinnon YL Hatch which is one of the types I raise and my favorite) Old English and Black Shuffler to name a few.

Gamefowl is what I raise myself. With gamefowl, you don't have to have a 1000 chickens or more to make money because Gamefowl tend to sell for more money than other chickens. If you know a gamefowl breeder or a flea market where they sell animals, you can sometimes get birds for \$5 to \$20 and then sell them on the internet for \$50-\$150 depending on their breed.

If you are raising them, you need to start off with a good trio of pure birds that way you can raise pure birds and sell them as well. Pure birds will bring more money than cross bred birds, but all of them will sell regardless. Some websites will charge you for listing your birds for sale, but you can list your birds for free on oakridgegamefarm.net Or eggbid.net or gamecockauction.com .



**A mature trio of 1 rooster and 2 hens might cost you over \$1,000.00
I have even seen one rooster that cost \$1500**

When making your decision regarding your preferred breed, remember to take into consideration your local climate. Some breeds of chickens do better in colder climates than others such as Orpingtons, Brahmas, Cochins, Plymouth Rocks, Rhode Island Reds and Wyandottes. This is due to the heavier weight of their feathers. On the other hand, Leghorns, Minorcas, Andalusians, and Hamburgs fair better in warmer weather due to lighter weight feathers.

What equipment and preparations are needed before and after purchasing your chickens?

The chickens come before the egg (or do they?). In any event, let us begin with the acquisition of chicks. There are several steps that you must take prior to the purchase or delivery of your future money makers.

If you are buying day old chicks, you must provide a brooder box which is merely a way to keep the chicks warm. You can use any type of sturdy material for this-but keep in mind that cardboard is flammable, and chicks are messy. A plastic storage box will do, if you have many chicks consider a metal container from your local feed supply store. Use a heat lamp to

provide the heat source, using a 75 to 100 watt bulb.

You will need to have a supply of wood shavings, straw, old newspaper or even leaves for the chicks bedding. You will also need a water system, a feeder, and a lot of patience.

Once they are in their clean and warm home, remember to change the bedding often. Also keep in mind that chicks grow at a fast pace, so as their feathers come in, raise the heat lamp (used in order to prevent respiratory troubles) as needed.

Change their water, feed, and bedding daily. As soon as the external night time temperatures stay above fifty degrees Fahrenheit, it is safe to transfer the chicks to an outside coop that should have adequate ventilation without being too drafty. If it is a large or commercial coop, you will need to install a fan system to ensure a constant supply of circulated air. There should be screens affixed to the openings, to prevent diseases from birds that decide to drop in for a visit.

You will need an under ground storage tank for the chicken waste products. Some farmers will actually pay you to haul this away, as they use it for fertilizer. You are also going to need a food storage bin that will hold a large amount of feed (if your local feed supply company sells it cheaper per large load, check into this).

We covered the chicks, now about the eggs. If you decide to take the egg route, there are several factors to consider before you begin. Number one, eggs break-be careful...

How did the farmer get the chicken from the egg?

He bought them!

If you are lucky enough to live near a local producer that will sell you eggs, that is wonderful. If, however, you are among the unfortunates that are unable to do so, do not panic. The following links are just a few internet options when it comes to the purchase of fertilized eggs:

Stromberg's Chicks & Gamebirds strombergschickens.com

McMurray Hatchery mcmurrayhatchery.com

Meyer Hatchery meyerhatchery.com

Or Oakridgegamefarm.net

A simple Google search will surely provide many more.

Number two, you are going to need some very specialized equipment in order to have your eggs see fruition. Before you order your fertilized eggs, make sure that you have a reliable incubator; either a still-air or a circulated-air incubator with a thermostat (set to temperature of 37°C (99°F); the size depends upon the amount of eggs to be hatched. The fertilized eggs require turning 3 times per day, so make sure to have on hand an egg turner. These are set on a timer to turn the eggs when you cannot, and increase the hatch rate from 50% to 70-80%.

Well worth the initial cost.

The best way & what to look for when you buy chickens

Whether day old chicks or year old hen, make sure that they are healthy. Most people begin in the springtime, purchasing one day old chicks from feed stores, pet stores, or even via mail order catalogs. The internet is also a wonderful source of information on exactly where to purchase chicks.

Make sure that there is an adequate lighting source making examination of the chicken easy. Are they active and alert? Are their eyes bright and shiny or sunken and contain discharge? If an older chicken, do the feathers appear shiny? Check the comb if of laying age. It should be bright red, not pale (pale often means anemic). The legs of a healthy chicken are somewhat similar to that of a healthy human. They should be firm and sturdy, not flabby and weak.

Do not buy a bird that has a twisted beak, as this means that you will have to pay someone to trim it, and therefore lose money. A twisted beak is a hereditary condition, like red hair, and will make the bird worthless for breeding purposes. Check for an empty crop on the chicken about mid-day. If his crop is empty, this indicates that the chicken will not eat (not good).

If the bird is either too thin or too fat avoid purchasing.

If you order your chicks through the mail, they are usually shipped out in (minimum) numbers of 25 one day-old. You can purchase vent sexed chicks or (90% accurate) 'straight run' chicks, which are not sexed (50%-50% male/female) You can only purchase Bantams straight run because of their tiny size. The general cost per chick ranges from

67¢-\$2.30 for males and \$2-\$4.50 for females. Straight runs usually range from \$1.25 - \$3.50.

The best time to buy a chicken depends for the most part on what use you have for that chicken. If you are purchasing a large group of chickens at one time, it would be best to purchase them at the one day old stage. This not only cuts down on shipping problems, but will reduce the chance of disease being introduced into a large flock. On the other hand, if you are looking to acquire a pet, or small group of a particular type chicken, the best age varies. For a pet chicken, any age goes (in case of a hen, as they tend to be much more adaptable than a rooster)



Providing housing for your chickens

The type of coop you settle on will in large part depend on the climate of your local area. It will depend on the goals that you wish to achieve and the materials available in your area. Almost any building, as long as it meets the square foot standard will be acceptable as a coop.

The costs for new large commercial coop will set you back quite a bit, approximately \$225,000 (includes site preparation, construction, equipment, wiring and plumbing). Just 2 houses equal ½ a million dollar investment.

Expect to upgrade your equipment regularly. This is not a build then profit venture. With the constant changes in technology, you will have to keep up or be scuttled. No matter the cost, all coops have a common goal of protecting your flock from elements and predators, so do not forget that chicks are a favorite little tidbit for predators such as weasels, minks, wild dogs, cats, foxes, wolves, even raccoons and opossums, and make sure that you secure the chicks at night to prevent them from becoming a midnight snack. The use of a strong security light, blaring radios, guard dogs/ geese can prevent an intruder from destroying your flock.

If you plan on having a small brood of Bantams? In this case you will only require 1 square foot per bird while large breed chickens such as Cochins require about four square feet per bird.

A good formula for figuring the amount of coop required is: {# of birds x the square feet needed per bird = amount of space needed}.

Remember Algebra? More equations for you; enjoy!

½ square foot of coop space per chick from 1 day to 6 weeks of age; 1 ½ to 2 square feet of floor space for pullets; & 2 to 2 ½ square feet for heavier breed pullets confined during the growing period.

If raising gamefowl, the roosters will need to be separated where they can't see other roosters through the cage or they will fight through the cage and hurt themselves.

Once introduced to the coop, bedding is required to maintain sanitation as well as good being. Pine shavings, rice hulls, peanut shells and ground corn cobs make very good bedding, while hardwood shavings will sometimes mold. Bedding should range from 3 inches in depth to up to 10 inches during the coldest months. Not only is it absorbent, it is also a good insulator.

Your coop should contain nest boxes (about the size of a milk crate) for every hen that is to lay and brood eggs, and perches (2x4 ; 2 feet off the ground) should be available as beds for the flock. They enjoy sleeping on a perch.

COOP LINKS:

<http://www.omlet.co.uk>

<http://www.backyardchickens.com/coopdesigns.html>

<http://www.forshamusa.com>

<http://www.angelfire.com/falcon/thecitychicken/tractors.html>



What to feed your chickens to produce healthy stock

Aside from the initial startup costs involved, most of your money targeted toward upkeep of your flock will center on feed. Even though high quality feed may cost a bit more, it will pay off in the long run. If you scrimp on the feed price, you will skimp on the profit. A chicken raised on an unbalanced diet will suffer from a variety of issues. The adage that "he couldn't be put back together again" describes this exactly, as once a young chicken suffers from inadequate nutrition, it can never be reversed.

Every stage of a chicken's life (and future use) requires a special type of specific feed. What are they?

Younger birds require special starter/grower rations while hens producing eggs should be fed layer rations, and grower feed if he's a meat bird. In addition to ground mash, you may also purchase pellets and crumbles which while increasing the cost over the mash form; will also increase your chickens desire to eat (thus gain weight) and can help reduce the amount of waste. It also can increase the nutritive value of the feed.

It is a safe and wise move to stick with the practice of feeding all of your flock, no matter the type a commercial formula feed that is already formulated to provide all nutritional requirements for your brood. Each bag is tagged with instructions, so always feed according to the tag. Remember the last time you attempted to put something together without following the instructions? Not a pretty sight; neither will your profit if you fail to follow the feed directions!

Medicated feeds are also available to prevent certain diseases such as coccidiosis (parasitic infection of the intestines) and to increase the growth rate of chicks. The medication is generally not included in laying mash, for chicks will build up immunity to coccidiosis after a time. The use of medicated feeds is governed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. No matter what type of feed you are providing, store it in a dry and pest free area. Not only do rats and mice carry disease, they will also eat up your profits.

Chickens will eat different amounts of feed depending on their size, how many eggs they produce, the type of feed provided and how much energy they exert per day. A bigger and heavier breed consumes an average of 100 pounds of feed per year while slighter birds average around 90 pounds per year.

After all of that feed, your birds will be thirsty. A safe estimate per bird per day would be around 12 ounces of fresh water. They should be provided with an elevated watering system in order to prevent the contamination of their bedding. This will save cleaning time as well as money better spent elsewhere.

Diseases among chickens can wipe out any chance of creating a profit, but the chance of this happening can be reduced and or avoided with a few common sense steps.

Clean is the lock and bleach is the key! If the bedding is replaced with fresh on a routine basis, the waterers and feeders are kept scrubbed, clean and disinfected, contagious diseases usually can be prevented through this practice.

Use a vaccination program recommended for your area by a knowledgeable veterinarian. Using too many drugs can be worse than never using any at all.

If you believe that your birds may be afflicted with an illness, be sure to find a qualified veterinarian in your area that will be able to diagnose your problem and suggest a solution. If your flock seems weak and apathetic, have difficulty breathing, have blood in their stools, or just seem in a weakened condition don't hesitate to jump to action. It may save your flock.



How to breed chickens to produce the best quality offspring?

Have you ever heard the old adage, "You have to spend money to make money"? When breeding and hatching chickens to produce the best quality offspring; keep this in mind. You have to breed standards to get standards. The first thing to do is to choose only those hens (in whatever breed you choose) that have the best track record when it comes to laying fertile eggs and having them hatch to chicks. This is the ultimate starting point.

If we are discussing meat birds, there must be a detailed record kept over time with the weight and gain records of these birds. It should be noted that in a meat production flock, it is the hen that determines the meat production since it is she that passes her size onto her sons. You need to pick and choose your hens accordingly, from the best cockerels.

Only hatch eggs that are of a good size for your preferred breed of bird. Never hatch eggs that are the wrong color for your preferred breed of bird. If you receive eggs that fail in these areas, switch out your stud rooster with another that was hatched from the appropriately sized and colored hen.

The rate of eggs being produced is a genetic trait, this time passed on from the father, and affected to an extent by the hen's environment. The way to maintain the size and qualities of the eggs produced by your hens is to pick your stud rooster from the best egg from your best layer. If there is no stud rooster available, you can improve your lines by finding a "stand in" that possesses the traits that you are seeking.



When is the best time to sell your chickens?

ANYTIME SOMEONE WILL BUY THEM!

The age that most “grocery store” chickens are butchered is 6 weeks. At this age they are called fryers. At 8 weeks they are called big fryers, 12 to 14 weeks they become roasters, 10 to 18 month old chickens become stewing chickens. The majority of chickens being raised for meat are butchered at 6 weeks.

The breeder hen lays the most eggs during her first year of life, after which egg production drops. Therefore if you are raising strictly egg producers, they should be sold off at about 45 weeks in order to keep up production. As soon as I buy some chickens, I take pictures and put them up for sale. The less time you have feeding them, the more money you actually make.

Places to sell your chickens

You must advertise. The internet is the best but whether you use hardcopy, such as magazines, newspapers, or a flyer in the local laundromat. If they see it, they may consider buying it. Get the word out!

For specialty chickens such as gamefowl and show chickens, visit your local flea market, take some chickens and set up a booth, and start taking orders. Check with the locals; make sure that it is legal. Put your best feather forward.

My Favorite Method!

Internet marketing becomes more popular and easy with every passing day. Don't be intimidated by it, learn to coexist and it just might become your best friend when it comes to easily making \$1000 a month raising chickens. Free web hosting sites abound with easy to manage fillable templates. With a few minutes of your time, and a few clicks of a button, you could be the proud new owner of your own online chicken catalog. If you are computer illiterate, then you may want to consider hiring a professional to design and set up your sales website for you. This will take a little bit of the profit from your pocket, but the sales gained will make up for this because the biggest thing that you will need is a buyer, without this all of your hard work will end up nowhere.

You may want to consider an easy and practical method of auctioning and selling your birds through an online auction house such as

Oakridgegamefarm.net

In just minutes you can create a professional looking ad for your Auction listing. They even feature a professional version with many extra combinations AND DID I MENTION THAT IT IS FREE!

Another method of making money with chickens is

You can find a few gamefowl breeders in your area that have several birds that they would like to sell and you could take pictures of their birds, write small descriptions about their birds and list them on the internet for free. This would be a no money down deal, because you are just selling the bird for someone else which does not require any money out of your pocket. If he is asking \$20 for the bird, then you list it on the website for \$50 plus shipping and there you go.

If he has 30-50 birds he wants to sell, you can see where that might be some serious cash for you, ALL WITH NO MONEY DOWN!

I use this method quite often. And by the way, you can use this method with anything, it does not have to be chickens and you can list anything you want FOR FREE so get out there and find some stuff to sell and put it on!

Also, when shipping birds out, you will probably use the US Postal Service. They require you to send the bird by USPS Express Mail. They make a special box for shipping birds.

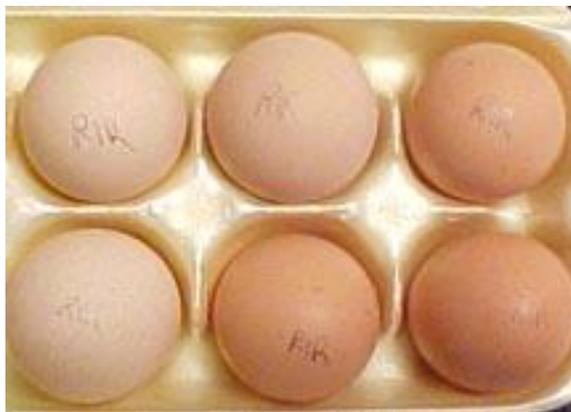
The cheapest ones I have seen are at [Matthews Poultry and Supplies](#)

Shop around and see!



These are the packing materials that I use to send eggs.

When mailing eggs, the key is the heavy bubble wrap. I also use heavy carpet padding when the bubble wrap is not available. The padding is cut into strips so the egg can be rolled up and taped. I wrap the eggs individually and place them in the box. I clean and mark all my hatching eggs. I sort for size and conformity and discard any eggs that are less than perfect.



The eggs above are all rejects, notice the different sizes and colors. they will be hard boiled and fed back to the birds or I might have a fried egg sandwich, it just depends on if I am hungry or not.

With my good birds, I can sometimes sell a dozen (12) eggs for up to \$100 depending on the breed, so if you have a 10 -15 hens or so, then you can see how they would pay for themselves in no time.



Here are the eggs that are ready for shipping.
We tape them so they can't unroll



This is a bird shipping box

There are many different types, but these are the ones I use. Notice that the box is tapered at the top, so the post office can't stack other boxes on

them. This keep a constant airflow of so the bird feels more comfortable. You should also place an absorbent material on the bottom of the box, like straw, cedar chips, etc. It keeps the bird dry. Put melon rinds or apples slices in the box with them. It helps get them a little moisture during the trip and it gives them something to do. The temperature has to be below 85 degrees or the Post Office will not accept them.

There are a few things you should know when mailing a bird

1. Know what time the post office truck arrives at the post office to pick up the days mail. You will want to bring your bird to the post office about 1/2 hour to an hour before the truck gets there. that way the bird is not in the post office long.
2. Isolate the birds a couple days ahead of time. That way you can monitor them for any sign of sickness or injury. No one wants a sick bird, especially one they just paid \$100 or more for. Make sure they have plenty of feed and water that way they will be well fed for their trip.
3. Know the cost of postage. It usually costs me anywhere from \$25-\$50 plus the cost of the box to ship one bird.
4. Write the buyers phone number on the box real big, with a note for the post office to call them when it arrives.
5. The post office does not insure the birds for live delivery. They only insure the birds if the package does not arrive on time. If it is on time and dead, it is your responsibility. If they are not on time and alive, you are entitle to a refund of your shipping costs.
6. Mail the birds no later than Wednesday during the week, so they don't get stuck in the post office over the weekend.

The post office will tell you when the bird should arrive. I always call or email the buyer with the tracking number to let them know when the bird is supposed to be there. Many buyers will become repeat buyers if you give them good healthy birds.

Whichever way you decide to turn will be another adventure. Travel each road wisely, and put a little effort in it and you will easily be making \$1,000 a month raising chickens part time!

Thanks and I hope this book helps you reach your goal of making \$1000 a month raising chickens

