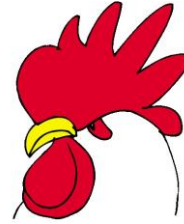


FOWL FACTS
DID YOU KNOW?



1. A rooster takes 18-20 breaths a minute.
2. A hen takes 30-35 breaths a minute.
3. It takes 4 pounds of feed to make 1 dozen eggs.
4. A chicken body temperature normally runs about 102-103 degrees F.
5. An average chicken has 8,325 feathers.
6. You do not need to have a rooster with a hen to get the hens to lay eggs. You only need a rooster if you want to hatch baby chicks.
7. If a rooster is not present in a flock of hens, a hen will often take the role, stop laying, and even will begin to crow.
8. Chickens lay different color eggs, from white, to brown, to green, to pin, to blue.
9. A hen lives an average of 5-7 years, but can live up to 20 years. She'll lay eggs her entire lifetime, with production decreasing every year from year one.
10. Pullets (a female under one year of age) start laying eggs at 6 months of age.
11. The chicken was once considered a sacred animal symbolizing the Sun. Breeds were developed to provide plumage for ceremonial costumes.
12. The first poultry exhibition held in the United States was on November 14, 1849. There were 219 exhibitors, 1023 birds, and over 10,000 visitors.
13. Did you know a chicken can have black skin? It is a trait called Melanosis, causes chickens' bones, ligaments, skin and tendons to be colored black. The most known breed of chicken with this trait is the Silkie.



14. According to the Guinness Book of Records, the largest chicken ever recorded, named "Weirdo" and hatched in Calaveras County, California in 1975 weighed more than 22 pounds.
15. The largest chicken egg on record was nearly 12 ounces, measuring 12 inches around.
16. The greatest number of yolks in one chicken egg is nine and the record for laying the most eggs in one day is seven.
17. It takes a hen 24-26 hours to lay an egg.
18. Alektorophobia is the fear of chickens.
19. The closest living relative of a T-Rex dinosaur is a chicken.

Submitted by the APA-ABA YOUTH PROGRAM

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