

# How to choose a feeder

Optimal capacity is dependent on:

- Number and size of birds.
- How often you prefer to fill the feeders.

Pick a feeder that will provide enough feed for the birds between your visits to the coop.

**For waterfowl** use a feeder with a wide base so they can fit their bills into it.

If you have a few birds or refill often, you can manage with a smaller feeder.

As bird size and/or flock size increases, so should the size of the feeder.

## What is a bird's daily feed intake?

A medium-size adult chicken will eat about 4 oz (1/4 lb) of feed per day. This varies by age and size of bird and the type of feed.

## Feed flow

Feed flow is affected by the fineness of feed, humidity and amount of feed. Very fine feeds, moist air or compacted feed will cause the feed to flow poorly through feeders.

**Solution**—With large feeders select a coarser feed that does not “bind-up” as easily.

## Feeder Comparison Chart

Name	Capacity	Suited for	No. Fed*	Inside/Outside	Grill	Can it hang
Chick Tray, Disposable	0.5 lb	chicks	14-25	inside	no	no
Chick Tray, Plastic	0.5 lb	chicks	14-25	inside	no	no
Abbey Cage Cups	3/4 cup	adults	1	inside	no	no
Gemini 11	0.5 lb	chicks	14	inside	yes	no
Columbia 12	0.75 lb	chicks	21	inside	yes	no
Gemini 20	1 lb	chicks	28	inside	yes	no
Classic F2	2 lb	adults/chicks	15	inside	no	no
Classic F3	3 lb	adults/chicks	12-20	inside	no	no
Saturn 3	3 lb	adults/chicks	12-20	inside	yes	yes
Apollo 20	5 lb	adults/chicks	20	inside	yes	no
Columbia 20	5 lb	adults/chicks	20	inside	yes	no
Grit & Shell Station	6 lb	adults	24	inside	no	no
Ascot	6 lb	adults	24	inside/outside	yes	yes
Wise Cage	10 lb	adults	40	inside/outside	yes	no
Spiral, 2 gal bucket	12 lb	adults	48	inside/outside	no	yes
Blenheim	13 lb	adults	52	inside/outside	yes	yes
Saturn 15	15 lb	adults	60	inside/outside	yes	yes
Feed-O-Matic	17.5 lb	adults	2	inside	no	no
Wise Mountable	20 lb	adults	80	inside/outside	yes	no
Spiral, 4 gal bucket	24 lb	adults	96	inside/outside	no	yes
Handy	26 lb	adults	100	inside/outside	yes	yes
Eco	26 lb	adults	100	inside/outside	yes	no
Feed-O-Matic	44 lb	adults	3	inside	no	no
King	55 lb	adults	220	inside/outside	yes	yes
Emperor	110 lb	adults	440	outside	opt'l	no

\*Note: “No. fed” is determined by capacity multiplied by 4 oz (amount of feed the average adult chicken eats per day). Crumbles, wheat, barley and cracked corn can be used in these feeders. Neither the Spiral nor the Emperor feeders will work with whole corn.