

How to choose a waterer

Optimum capacity is dependent on:

- Number and size of birds.
- How often you prefer to water them.

Choose a waterer that will provide enough clean water for the birds between your visits to the coop.

For chicks use a small waterer with a drown-proof or narrow base.

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

If you have a few birds or visit frequently, you can manage with a smaller waterer. If you have many birds, you need a larger one, especially during hot summer months.

Note: Some users strongly prefer one style of waterer over another. Check out the reviews on our website to see what others think—and why.

What is a bird's daily water intake?

A medium-size adult chicken will drink about 0.08 gal (just over a cup) on a hot day. Temperature, size and age of the bird and amount of salt in the feed will cause this figure to vary considerably.

WATERER TIPS

- **Keep the waterer level.** This enables the internal float (if applicable) to work properly—and prevents water overflowing onto the floor or soil.
- **Clean the waterer often.** Hard water deposits or algae may block valves.
- **Place waterers** above ground level on concrete blocks, a Chick Tray or Chick Stand. Birds are less likely to foul the water when scratching near it.
- **Change the waterer's location often** to prevent mud holes forming.
- **Do not place waterers in the sun**—a shaded location reduces the amount of evaporation and keeps the water cooler.

Waterer Comparison Chart

Name	Capacity	Suited for	No. of birds	Waterfowl
Abbey Cage Cup	3/4 cup	adults	1	yes
Jar, Drown-Proof Base	20 oz	chicks/quail	10-20/40	no
Chick Nipple Drinker	1 liter	chicks/adults	10-20	no
Pop Bottle Bases	n/a	chicks	10-20	no
Classic Waterer	0.4 gal	chicks	15	yes
Combination 3	0.8 gal	chicks/adults	10/10	yes
Top Fill Fountain	1.5 gal	adults	18	yes
Combination 6	1.6 gal	adults	20	yes
Heated Waterer	2.25 gal	adults	26	yes
Imperial Tri-Pod	2.5 gal	adults	30	yes
Bucket Nipple Waterer	3 gal	adults	35	yes
QuickClean	3 gal	adults	35	yes
Top Fill Fountain	3 gal	adults	35	yes
QuickClean	5 gal	adults	60	yes
Imperial Tri-Pod	5 gal	adults	60	yes
Imperial Tri-Pod	7.5 gal	adults	90	yes
Tri-Pod	8 gal	adults	100	yes
No Mess Auto Drinker	continuous	adults	over 100	yes
Kane, plastic	continuous	adults	over 100	yes
Kane, galvanized	flow	adults	over 100	yes

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