



The

QUICK GUIDE

— to a —

SUCCESSFUL HATCH

—

(and how long each breed
will make you wait!!)

37.5 Degrees is the perfect temperature for hatching most breeds. That's where the magic happens!

45 - 55 % humidity is recommended (for most breeds) and slightly higher a couple of days leading up to the hatch.

Table of breeds and how long they take to hatch:

BANTAMS	21 DAYS
CHICKENS	21 DAYS
DUCKS	28 DAYS
MUSCOVY	35 DAYS
TURKEYS	28 DAYS
GOOSE	28-34 DAYS
GUINEA FOWL	26-28 DAYS
PHEASANT	23-28 DAYS
PEAFOWL	28-30 DAYS
QUAIL	16-18 DAYS
PARTRIDGE (CHUKAR)	23-24 DAYS
PIGEON	18 DAYS
SWAN	36-37 DAYS
OSTRICH	42 DAYS



Things to remember:

- Make sure the eggs are as fresh as possible from good quality stock. After 7 days the eggs are going to be less and less likely to hatch so a good idea is to collect your eggs for a full week and then put them all in the incubator at once this way they will all hatch together.
- It's ok to put different eggs in on different days just use the table above to calculate a hatch date and write it on the egg in pencil - don't forget when to stop turning each egg.
- Set up your incubator and get the temperature and water levels right the day before you put the eggs in. This way the conditions are nice and stable and the eggs can go straight into the "goldilocks zone" (not too cold, not too hot but JUST right!)
- Make sure you've got the calendar marked with your hatch day AND the day you need to stop turning the eggs. 2 days before hatch day you need to stop turning them. If you've got an automatic turner take them out of this and leave them on the bottom of the incubator undisturbed. This gives the chick a chance to "pip" it's way out of the shell without being rocked and turned which can actually kill the chick right before it hatches.
- Be patient with the chicks when hatching. Some will spring straight out of the egg like superman bursting out of a phone booth and others will take a lot longer (up to 24 hrs longer). After they hatch they'll be exhausted so let them recover in the incubator for up to 24 hrs. And don't worry about getting them fed quickly after they hatch as they are still absorbing their egg yolk in their body so they don't need food and water straight away.
- After they're all hatched and you've maybe (very carefully) helped the last few stragglers out they can now be moved into their brooder to start feeding and drinking and growing like champions!

Don't forget it's all a learning curve so don't expect to get it perfect first time.
But when you do get the perfect hatch it will definitely be worthwhile!

Happy hatching! from Brookfield Poultry Equipment