The Livestock Conservancy Heritage Chicken Breed Comparison Chart

Photos	Breed	Origin	CPL Status	Purpose	Adult Weight (lbs)	Egg Color	Egg Size	Rate of Lay/Yr	Temperament	Brooding/ Mothering	Experience	Climate	Uses and Notes
	Ancona	Italy	Watch	Eggs	6/4.5	White	Medium to Large	Good; 120-180	Highly active	Non-Setters	Novice	Does well in both cold and heat	Noted for hardiness and vigor; prefers to free range over wide areas;, good winter layers; pheasant-like; single comb vulnerable to frostbite
	Aseel	India and Pakistan	Critical	Meat	5.5/4	White or tinted light brown	Small	Poor; 6-40	Both sexes can be very aggressive, even at a young age	Setters	Intermediate/ Advanced	Best in warm climates; can tolerate some cold, but need to be kept dry	Breed makes excellent crosses for the production of broilers; very hardy and predator savvy; exceedingly protective mothers
	Andalusian	Spain	Watch	Eggs	7/5.5	Chalk-white	Large	Very Good; ~160	Active, yet gentle	Non-Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Very rugged and robust; blue feather coloration can be a challenge to perfect; excels in free-range conditions; typically not good in confinement
	Belgian Bearded D'Uccle Bantam	South China, Burma	Watch	Ornamental/ Exhibition	1.6/1.4	Tinted	Small	Good; 100-120	Active, but calm	Can be good brooders	Novice/ Intermediate	Does not do well in humid environments	Pet and exhibition fowl, insect control in the garden
	Booted Bantam	Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Burma	Critical	Ornamental/ Exhibition	1.6/1.4	White, cream or tinted	Small	Good; 100-120	Active, but calm	Can be good brooders	Novice/ Intermediate	Not cold tolerant	Pet and exhibition fowl, insect control in the garden

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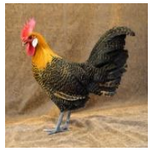
	Buckeye	United States	Watch	Meat, Eggs	9/6.5	Brown	Large	Good; 120-150	Active, yet gentle	Variable	Novice	Does well in the cold, but can adapt to heat over time	Excellent broilers; breast meat is almost dark like thighs; best ranger of the American class; exceedingly protective mothers
	Buttercup	Sicily	Threatened	Eggs	6.5/5	White	Small to Medium	Good; 140-180	Highly active	Non-Setters	Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Good forager; does well on free range; striking flower-shaped comb that can be a challenge to perfect
	**Campine**	Belgium	Threatened	Eggs	6/4	White	Medium to Large	Good; 150+	Very active	Non-Setters	Novice	Best in hot to moderate climates	Vigorous forager; if silver variety is crossed with the golden variety, chicks can be sexed as day-olds
	Catalana	Mediter-ranean	Critical	Eggs, Meat	8/6	White to Tinted	Medium	Good; 150+	Active	Non-Setters	Novice	Best in hot to moderate climates	Meat is succulent; cockerels often used for capon in Spain; can be flighty but not overly so
	Chantecler	Canada	Watch	Eggs, Meat	8.5/6.5	Brown	Large	Good; 120-180	Docile, but some lines can be variable	Variable	Novice	Best in cold climates; not recommended for hot regions	Good winter layer; has almost no wattles and a tiny button comb; has well-fleshed breasts

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	Cochin	China	Recovering	Meat, Ornamental	11/8.5	Brown	Large	Fair; up to 140	Docile	Setters	Novice	Best in cold climates	Excellent broody breed, especially for turkey and duck eggs; needs to be kept on well-drained soils
	Cornish	England	Watch	Meat	10.5/8	Tinted	Medium to Large	Fair; 50-80	Docile	Non-Setters	Intermediate	Best in warm climates	Superb table bird; very short, compact body with enormous breasts; does not do well in the cold or extreme heat
	Crévecour	France	Watch	Meat, Eggs	8/6.5	White	Medium to Large	Good; ~150	Active	Non-Setters	Intermediate	Best in temperate climate	Known for fine flesh; has fine bones and excellent percentage of meat to offal when processed; can be delicate to manage; vulnerable to predators due to crest of feathers on head obstructing vision; does not do well in weather extremes
	Cubalaya	Cuba	Critical	Eggs, Meat	6/4	White	Small	Good; 125-175	Active, but calm	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates, highly tolerant of humidity	Known for fine meat qualities; can be aggressive to other birds, but mild-mannered compared to other game birds; can be noisy
	Delaware	United States	Recovering	Eggs, Meat	8.5/6.5	Brown	Large to Jumbo	Very Good; 150-200	Docile	Setters	Novice	Does well in both hot and cold climates	Developed to grow quickly for broiler production; color pattern can be challenge to perfect

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	Dominique	United States	Watch	Eggs, Meat	7/5	Brown	Medium to Large	Excellent; 230-275	Active	Variable	Novice	Does well in any climate	Excellent forager and homestead fowl; primarily a laying fowl, but has nice breast proportions for meat
	Dorking	England	Threatened	Eggs, Meat	9/7	White	Medium to Large	Good; ~150	Docile, but active	Setters	Novice	Does well in any climate	Famous for meat flavor; good winter layers and foragers; comb can be prone to frostbite
	Faverolles	France	Watch	Meat, Eggs	8/6.5	Tinted to Light Brown	Medium to Large	Very Good; 180-200	Docile but Active	Variable	Novice	Can do well in any climate	Used for meat and winter egg production; productive when in contact with the ground - does not like confinement; comb can be prone to frostbite
	Hamburg	Holland	Threatened	Eggs	5/4	White	Medium	Excellent; 200-225	Active, can be very flighty	Non-Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Does well in any climate	Likes to roosts in trees; lay large numbers of eggs over a longer period of their lifetime than most breeds
	Holland	United States	Critical	Eggs, Meat	8.5/6.5	White	Large	Good	Docile	Setters	Novice	Does well in both hot and cold	Top-notch foragers; good homestead fowl; comb can be prone to frostbite

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	Houdan	France	Threatened	Meat, Eggs	8/6.5	White	Small to Medium	Fair	Docile, exceptionally gentle	Setters, can be awkward setters that break eggs	Novice/ Intermediate	Does well in any climate, but prefers dry and warm	Five toed fowl; “Label Rouge” certified in France for flavor; can be vulnerable to predators due to crest of feathers on head obstructing vision; can be awkward setters that break eggs
	Icelandic	Iceland	Threatened	Eggs, Meat	3-5	White to light beige	Large	Good	Widely variable	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Will do better in cooler climates	Very hardy, active forager
	Japanese Bantam	Southeast Asia	Threatened	Ornamental/ Exhibition	1.6/1.4	Cream	Small	Poor; 55	Alert but calm	Excellent brooders	Novice/ Intermediate	Needs supplemental heat in cold climates	Pet and exhibition fowl, insect control in the garden
	Java	United States	Critical	Meat, some Eggs	9.5/7.5	Brown	Large	Good; 150+	Docile, but active	Setters	Novice	Does well in both hot and cold	Premier homestead fowl; excellent forager; slower growth equating to excellent meat flavor; combs may be prone to frostbite
	Jersey Giant	United States	Recovering	Meat, Eggs	13/10	Brown	Extra Large	Very Good: 175-185	Docile	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Will do better in cooler climates	Originally envisioned to take the place of the turkey on the table; can be awkward setters that break eggs

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	La Fléche	France	Critical	Meat, Eggs	8/6.5	White	Medium to Large	Very Good; 200	Active	Non-Setters	Intermediate	Can handle hot and cold but not extremes of either	Highly regarded for flavor of the meat; large breasts for their size
	Lakenvelder	Holland & Germany	Threatened	Eggs	5/4	White	Medium	Very Good; 150-200	Active; can be flighty	Non-Setters	Novice	Can handle hot and cold but combs can be prone to frostbite	Excellent foragers; very predator-savvy; combs can be prone to frostbite
	Langshan	China	Threatened	Eggs, Meat	9.5/7.5	Plum	Large	Good; up to 200	Docile	Setters	Novice	Good in both hot and cold	Produces large amount of meat that is very white; Asiatic breed suited for warm climates
	Leghorn (non industrial)	Italy	Recovering	Eggs	6/4.5	White	Medium to Large	Excellent; 250-300 +/-	Very Active	Non-Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Noted for hardiness and vigor; produces more eggs with less food than any other breed
	Malay	India	Critical	Meat	9/7	Brown	Medium	Poor	Active	Setters	Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Tallest of all chickens; meat is very lean with little fat; adults are hardy but chicks can be delicate; can be quarrelsome in confinement - will feather pick each other in close quarters; cannot cover many eggs due to tight feathering, males can be aggressive to chicks

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	Minorca	Spain	Watch	Eggs	9/7.5	Chalk-White	Extra Large	Excellent	Very Active	Non-Setters	Novice	Best in hot to moderate climates	Great foragers; produces large carcass but meat can be dry; historically breasts were stuffed with lard before being roasted
	Modern Game	England	Threatened	Show, Meat	6/4.5	White to tinted light brown	Small	Fair: 100+/-	Active and curious	Setters	Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Do not tolerate close confinement; can be aggressive at times; noisy; need lots of exercise to maintain muscle tone
	Nankin	England	Threatened	Eggs, Broody hens	24 oz./ 22 oz. (bantam breed)	Creamy white	Small	Fair; 90-100	Docile	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates, rose comb variety better for cold	Eggs tend to be round in shape so they can be a challenge to hatch; eggs typically hatch better under a broody hen than in an incubator; hens are excellent brooders
	New Hampshire	United States	Threatened	Eggs, Meat	8.5/6.5	Brown	Extra Large	Fair	Docile	Variable	Novice	Does well in hot and cold	Has a rapid rate of growth, produces fine table fowl; combs can be prone to frostbite
	Old English Game	England	Watch	Show	5/4	White to tinted light brown	Small	Fair; 120+/-	Active	Setters	Intermediate/ Advanced	Best in hot to moderate climates	Can be capable of long flight; can revert to feral state; can be aggressive; can be distracted mothers

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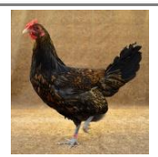
	Phoenix	Germany	Watch	Exhibition, Feathers	5.5/4	White to tinted brown	Small	Poor	Docile	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Highly ornamental with extraordinarily long tail; chicks need extra protein in diet when growing their tails; need lots of room to roam and clean facilities to keep tail in good condition
	Polish	Holland	Recovering	Eggs	6/4.5	White	Medium to Large	Very Good; 200+	Docile	Non-Setters	Intermediate	Can handle hot and cold, but not extremes	Has dense feather crest on head that obscures vision; flighty when disturbed; raising chicks in elevated brooders so they can see human activity better can make them more calm; vulnerable to predators
	**Redcap**	England	Critical	Eggs	7.5/6	White	Medium to Large	Very Good; 180-220	Active	Non-Setters	Novice	Best in hot to moderate climates	Huge rose comb; adult color not fully developed until the second or third year
	Rhode Island White	United States	Watch	Eggs, Meat	8.5/6.5	Brown	Large to Extra Large	Good	Docile	Non-Setters	Novice	Does well in both hot and cold climates	Good forager and loves to range, but not far from the coop; roosters can be housed together in winter, but will need more room at the start of breeding season

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	Russian Orloff	Russia	Threatened	Meat	8.5/6.5	Light brown	Small	Variable	Can be aggressive	Non-Setters	Intermediate/ Advanced	Excellent cold tolerance; not recommended for hot climates	Very hardy breed
	Sebright	England	Watch	Eggs, Show	22 oz./20 oz. (bantam breed)	White or creamy	Very Small	Poor	Docile	Non-Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Can handle hot and cold but not extremes	Primarily an exhibition fowl; great choice if you don't have a lot of room for chickens; can be delicate
	Shamo	Japan	Critical	Meat, Ornamental	11/7	Pale brown	Medium	Poor; 60-100	Can be aggressive to other birds, but friendly to people	Setters	Intermediate/ Advanced	Best in hot to moderate climates	Meat is known to be firm and almost tough; meat often used in Sumo wrestlers' diet
	White-faced Black Spanish	Spain	Critical	Eggs	8/6.5	Chalk-White	Large	Good	Active	Non-Setters	Novice	Best in hot to moderate climates	Known as the clown-faced chicken due to the big white face patches of the roosters; noisy; chicks can be flighty, but adults tend to be more calm and curious
	Spitzhauben	Switzerland	Watch	Eggs	3.5-4.5	White	Large	Good	Flighty, active		Novice/ Intermediate	Best in cold climates	Active forager, winter hardy, distinctive crest on head

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	Sultan	Turkey	Threatened	Ornamental	6/4	White	Large	Good; 150-200	Active	Variable	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Can be less damaging to vegetation than other breeds; chicks can be delicate; has large breast and fine meat
	Sumatra	Sumatra, Java, Borneo	Threatened	Ornamental	5/4	White to tinted	Small	Fair	Active	Setters	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Lustrous plumage; flighty and jumpy; good at evading predators
	Sussex	England	Recovering	Meat, Eggs	9/7	Tan to Brown	Large	Very good; ~200, if hens are not overly fat	Docile, curious	Setters	Novice	Good in hot and cold	Good all around table bird; birds fatten easily; good ranger; combs can be prone to frostbite
	Yokohama	Germany	Threatened	Show, Ornamental	4.5/3.5	Tinted light brown	Small	Poor; 80	Active	Variable	Novice/ Intermediate	Best in hot to moderate climates	Exhibition fowl; chicks need extra protein when growing their long tail feathers; needs lots of room to roam; known to go broody after laying only 12-14 eggs

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