

# FAQ'S

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## **Q: Do you guarantee that the hatching eggs I order will hatch?**

A: No, your eggs may not hatch!

When discussing shipped hatching eggs with our customers, we always try to remind them of the risks involved when purchasing hatching eggs and the difference between an infertile egg and a nonviable egg.

Shipped hatching eggs may travel a great distance and experience excessive variations in climate, including temperature, humidity and pressure changes that may occur with fluctuations in altitude. These conditions, coupled with the possibility of simple human carelessness when handling the package, are beyond our control and can decrease the likelihood of a successful hatch.

Because of these factors, a fertile and viable egg can be packed into a box, shipped to you and arrive in a nonviable state. When candling the eggs, nonviable eggs appear clear, just as infertile eggs do.

Errors in incubation procedure and preparation may also cause an unsuccessful outcome.

Due to these circumstances beyond our control during shipment and incubation, critter-cages.com makes **No Guarantee** of the hatchability of eggs. However, we will make every effort to see that your all eggs will be fresh and arrive in good shape for incubation and hatching.

## **Q: How many eggs should I reasonably expect to hatch?**

A: You should reasonably expect 45-50% of the eggs you ordered to hatch. These numbers are not guaranteed but are based on average success rates from past incubation attempts of shipped hatching eggs. You could do better or worse.

## **Q: How many eggs should I order?**

A: Assuming an average hatch rate of 50% , you should be able to “estimate” how many eggs you will need to order, based on your goals. If your goal is to have 6 hens, for example, you will want to order approximately 24 eggs. (50% of 24 is 12, From these 12 chicks, theoretically 50% will be male and 50% female (though it does not always prove to be a 50/50 split of males to females). This would conceivably leave you with 6 hens.

## **Q: Do you ship overseas?**

A: We only ship hatching eggs to the lower 48 States and Alaska. Due to Hawaii State Ag. Regulations we are unable to ship fertile eggs to the Aloha State.

## **Q: Can I preorder hatching eggs and have them shipped at a specific time?**

A: Yes! We will make every effort to ship your eggs when requested. Shipments are always based on availability. Our chickens are not mass producers and their laying habits can change quite suddenly. A hen can stop laying in as little as 48 hours or less, due to broodiness, the number of light hours in a day, stress caused by an injury, illness, heat & cold, molting, and sometimes when it just doesn't “suit her fancy”...We do our best

to estimate the availability of eggs from each breed based on past performance but, as the old adage goes, “don’t count your chickens...” Please be patient and know that your order is our priority. Purchases will be filled in the order taken. Please be prepared for delays if you are ordering a popular or rare breed that is in high demand. We will keep you informed of any changes in availability, should the need arise.

**Q: Do you have a minimum order requirement for hatching eggs?**

A: No, You may order as few as you like. Please check shipping rates, smaller orders are shipped at the 12 egg rate. [More Info & Shipping Rates Click Here](#)

**Q: Will my hatching eggs be marked so I know what breed they are?**

A: Yes, all eggs will arrive marked with a specific breed code. A complete breed code list will be included in your shipment. Breed Codes can also be found under each breeds name on the Hatching Eggs pages.

**Q: I have ordered both an incubator and hatching eggs, will they arrive together?**

A: Not necessarily, your incubator and other smaller items will ship from our California warehouse, while your eggs will ship directly from the farm. Please keep this in mind when ordering. If you have ordered an incubator and hatching eggs, you will need to allow time for your incubator to arrive, be set up and prepared for your eggs. You should request that your eggs arrive 1-2 weeks after your incubator order is placed. Ideally, you should order your incubator prior to your hatching eggs. This will remove the possibility of your eggs arriving before your incubator.

**Q: My shipped hatching eggs have arrived. How long can I store my eggs before they must be incubated?**

A: Once hatching eggs arrive, they should be allowed to rest at room temperature (70 F.) for 18-24 hours without movement and then placed immediately into your preheated incubator. We discuss this in detail in our Guide to Artificial Incubation.

Please refer to our ebook for full incubation instructions. [A Guide To Incubation Click Here](#)