

Tyrant Farms' Duck Egg Incubation Checklist

1. Incubator placement

Check to make sure your incubator is placed in:

- a low-traffic spot;
- out of the sun;
- a spot in your home where kids and pets aren't likely to knock into it;
- a spot that's not drafty or prone to temperature fluctuations.

2. Egg selection/preparation

If you're using your own eggs, make sure they are:

- free of excess duck poo;
- unwashed so bloom is not removed;
- NOT cracked, soft-shelled, double-yolked, misshapen, oversized or undersized;
- marked with pencil on each side (example: X on one side and # of egg on the other)

3. Incubation schedule

Follow this incubation schedule to optimize your hatch rates:

BEFORE setting eggs:

- Bring incubator to 99.5°F with humidity of 55-58% BEFORE setting eggs;

Days 1-7:

- Maintain 99.5°F with humidity between 55-58%;
- Place eggs on their sides — if one end is slightly raised, the large end should be facing upward (it contains the air sac);
- If no egg auto-turn feature, manually turn eggs AT LEAST 7 times per day (50% rotation in same direction each time); if auto-turn feature, check marks on eggs to make sure each egg is turning;

Days 7-25:

- Maintain 99.5°F with humidity between 55-58%;
- Begin candling your eggs once every 2 days and remove any bad eggs;
- Continue turning eggs at least 7 times daily or checking auto-turn functionality;
- [optional] Once per day from Days 10-25, remove eggs from incubator and let cool on towel (so they don't roll) for 10 minutes; spritz with water then return to incubator.

Days 26-28:

- Lower temperature to 98.5°F and raise humidity to 65%;
- Stop turning eggs;
- When ducklings pip, increase humidity to 70% and increase ventilation by 50%;
- When ducklings fully hatch, lower temp to 97°F and increase ventilation to 100%;
- When duckling(s) is dry (within 1 hr after hatch), remove from incubator and place in dry bedding under heat lamp with food and water available.

**Note: If you're measuring "wet bulb" humidity, it should be 86% from Days 1-25 and 94% from Days 26-28.*

Learn more at <https://www.tyrantfarms.com/how-to-hatch-duck-eggs-complete-guide/>

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