

## 4-H Activities

### Points to Ponder...

One of the most important things to remember is that you must provide a proper house or shelter to protect your chickens from the weather. Baby chicks have down, not feathers, so they need a heat source until feathers develop.

By the time your pullets are 20 weeks old, each will require 4 square feet of floor space.

Do not give your chickens scratch grain or table scraps. Birds that are fed scratch grain will not lay as many eggs as birds that are fed a well-balanced complete feed.

You can expect each pullet to eat about 20 pounds of feed during the first 20 weeks.

70% of the cost of raising chickens is due to feed cost.

Raising chickens can be a great way to provide eggs for your family and friends!

Consider exhibiting your pullets at local fairs!

Raising your chicks is just the start of the many exciting experiences 4-H has to offer. You may be interested in some of our other fun activities like judging teams, animal shows, camps, conferences, and more!



For questions about raising chicks or for more information about the 4-H Chick Chain Project, please contact:

**Katie Martin**  
**Smith County Extension Agent**  
**615-735-2900**  
**[kclark54@utk.edu](mailto:kclark54@utk.edu)**

# 4-H Chick Chain

## Poultry Project



### Project Information & Registration Form



SMITH COUNTY  
**UT**EXTENSION  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

# How Does the Chick Chain Project Work?

Livestock projects help teach youth responsibility. The Chick Chain is a good 4-H project because caring for chicks is not as costly as the care for a horse or a calf.

However, the chicks still require space, time, and money. Raising chickens is fun and rewarding, but be prepared to care for them.

The Chick Chain project is for 4-H members who have a place to raise and care for chickens at their home. The 4-H'er must purchase a minimum of 12 (maximum of 25) baby chicks to raise. **They must also bring 3 hens back to exhibit and sell in the fall.** By purchasing chicks through Chick Chain, the 4-H'er is agreeing to exhibit them at the Chick Chain Show and Sale in the fall. The money from the sale of the birds will be given directly to the 4-H'er from the buyer.

**For information on this year's breeds and to find resources on raising chickens, visit our website at [smith.tennessee.edu](http://smith.tennessee.edu) and click on 4-H Chick Chain.**

You can choose from two breeds: Buff Orpingtons and Barred Rock. You can order chicks from more than one breed, if you wish.

We will send a letter once we order the chicks to let you know the expected arrival date and information regarding their pickup.

If you are interested in receiving chicks this year and raising them for your 4-H Project, please mail the attached order form and payment to:

**Smith County 4-H  
125 Gordonsville Hwy, Suite 300  
Carthage, TN 37030**

You may also bring your form and payment by the UT Extension Office at the address above.

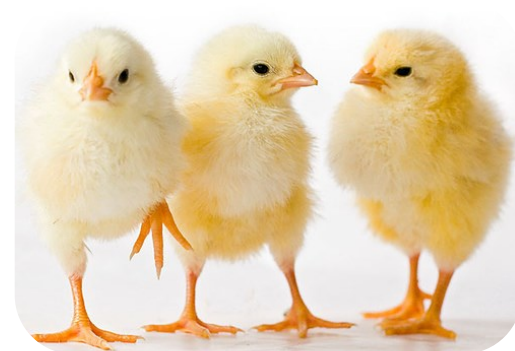
This year, 4-H'ers can order **Barred Rock** and/or **Buff Orpington** chicks.

The chicks will be ordered on:

**Tuesday, February 1, 2022.**

Please have your orders placed before this date in order to be included in the project this year.

**Do NOT take your Chick Chain form and money back to school!**



4-H Member's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle breed you want: **Barred Rock** **Buff Orpington** Minimum purchase is 12 chicks.

If two or more breeds: Barred Rock # \_\_\_\_\_ Buff Orpington # \_\_\_\_\_ (must buy at least 7 of one breed)

Number of Chicks Needed: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$3 = Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H'er Signature: \_\_\_\_\_