

Guidelines for Keeping Poultry

Many residents like to keep chickens as a hobby or to provide their family with fresh eggs. Keeping chickens contributes to sustainability through recycling kitchen and garden scraps. While this activity can be rewarding, the owner must not negatively impact neighbours by allowing odours, breeding of vermin, etc. This document is intended to assist anyone who wishes to keep poultry to do so in a manner that reduces the risks of creating a nuisance for neighbours.

Poultry Shelters

Construction and location of your coop should be in a manner that allows for easy cleaning. Allow 0.4m² floor space for each bird.

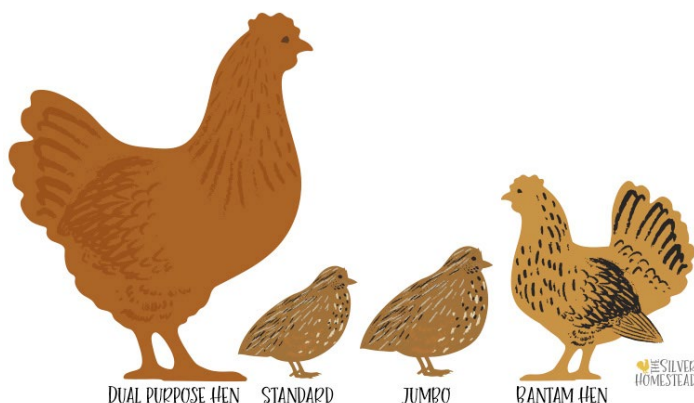
Shelter construction guidelines

- Construct the coop in the rear yard
- Locate the coop at least 1 meter from boundary fences. And as far as practical from liveable structures on your property and neighbouring properties.
- Locate the coop away from stormwater run-off areas.
- The coop should be weatherproof, rat proof and well ventilated.
- The floor should be paved with concrete or other material that is unable to absorb water.
- Part of the coop can be covered with wire netting but should have a rainproof roof which overhangs the wall.
- It is best to face your coop in a northerly or easterly direction to prevent rain entering.
- Limit the size of the coop to 2.5m high, 15m² in area and no greater span than 3m, as anything larger would require development approval.

Keeping Poultry

Poultry should be kept in a manner that prevents nuisances from noise, odours, flies and vermin, and poultry escaping onto other people's property.

It is recommended to limit the number of poultry kept to 6 large birds (e.g. chickens) or 12 small birds (e.g. quails) on premises within townships. Larger numbers than this will impact nuisances and may constitute a change in land use to animal keeping or intensive animal husbandry, which would require development approval.



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The Barossa Council

Noise

Roosters are not necessary for hens to lay eggs and therefore it is recommended that roosters are *not* kept within townships. Council staff may need to contact you if a complaint is received in relation to a noisy rooster, with the possibility of rooster removal.

Odours

Ensure shelters are cleaned out weekly and kept tidy to minimise odour. All waste should be disposed of appropriately (either into a bin or dug into the ground).

Agricultural lime (calcium carbonate) or barn lime can be used to neutralise odour, reduce moisture and deter pests.

Fly and Vermin Control

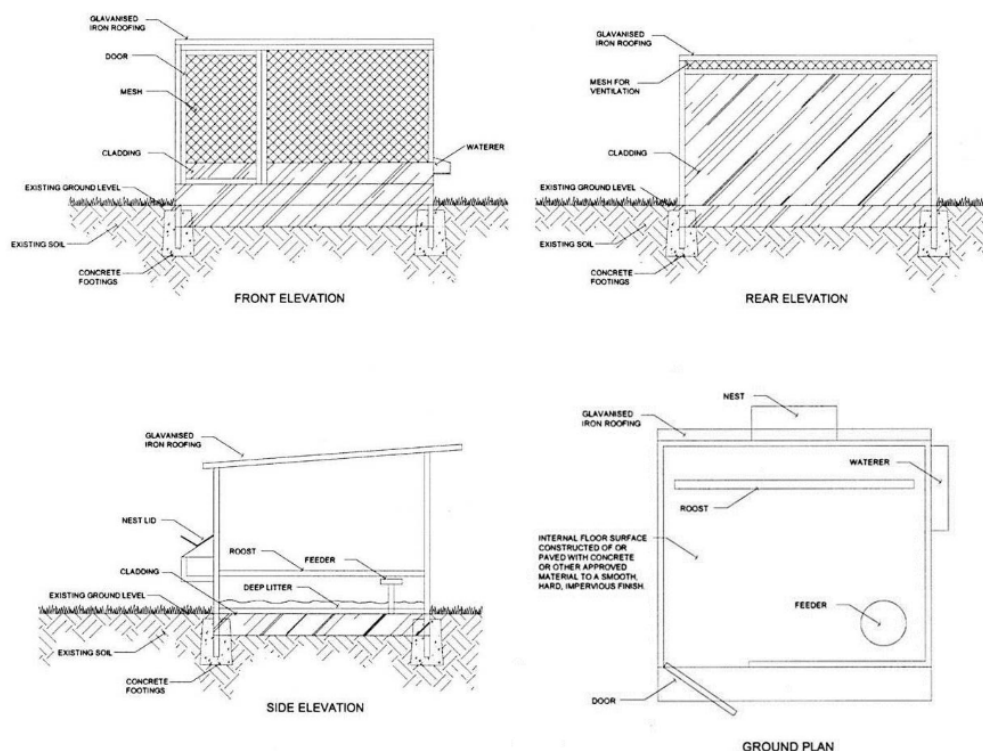
Food should be stored in sealed, air-tight containers and feeding should be done in small amounts to prevent attracting vermin.

Planting various herbs around the shelter can also help to deter pests and promote flock health such as Mint, Lavender, Rosemary, Marigolds, Lemon Balm.

Fly baits/paper and rat baits can also be used around the shelter but kept out of reach of poultry.

Further Information

If you have any further questions regarding poultry keeping, please contact The Barossa Council on 8563 8444.



Note: Some buildings require Development Approval.

