



Hatching Day-by-Day



Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7
Today we're putting our eggs in the incubator.	The heart, ears, eyes, and brain have already started to grow today.	Nearly invisible veins could be seen if you held the egg up to the light.	The chicks have started to grow all the organs they will need to live after they hatch.	Today, the chick's bones will start to form.	The beak of the chick will begin to grow today.	The chick will look more like a bird by the end of today.

Day 8	Day 9	Day 10	Day 11	Day 12	Day 13	Day 14
The chick still does not have any feathers, but natal down starts to grow.	Today the beak starts lengthening and hardening.	The chick's toes are separated and have started to grow toenails.	The chick's comb will develop and the legs will develop scales today.	Today the chick starts growing its first little down feathers along its spine.	The chick's body is now covered lightly all over with feathers.	Today, the chick begins to position itself for hatching.

Day 15	Day 16	Day 17	Day 18	Day 19	Day 20	Day 21
The bones, claws, skull, and leg scales are all hardening today.	Today, the egg is mostly full of the grown chick and its yolk.	The chick is turning its beak toward the air cell while its head is between its legs.	If candled today, most of the egg would be dark, showing just how large the chick is.	The chick's legs will be curled into its body, and its head will be tucked under its right wing.	The chick is ready to start hatching.	Hatch Day! Enjoy your babies. 