

## **Chicken Tractor Plans-Read before You Purchase**

With the growing hobby of building chicken tractors it is important that before you build your own chicken tractor, you learn exactly the right way to do it. Chicken tractor plans are available for free and for sale on the internet and will give you exact directions on how to build your own tractor. They are usually easy to follow and will tell you what measurements you need, the wood and other materials that is involved and step by step on how to put it all together. If you are skilled in design you can even put together your own tractor plans if you already have an idea of what you want to build.

There are several basic designs that most chicken tractor plans follow. The two most common styles are the A-frame and the mini house. Both styles work well. What is important is to make sure that in the end the chicken tractor is easy to move. If there is only one person available to move the tractor, then a set of wheels is usually required, in a manner similar to a wheel barrow. Keep in mind that this feature will add cost and complexity to the project. The good news is that there are a variety of affordable plans available that can be downloaded instantly, so you can start building right away.

For those who are familiar with reading blueprints, ordering a simple set of plans is sufficient. However for the typical homeowner with limited experience and tools, it's very important to confirm that the set of chicken tractor plans you are considering also include illustrated instructions. These might include separate instructions for measuring and cutting to size each component of the tractor, as well as offering a couple of different tools that may be used to accomplish the task.

While one can deviate from the plans to suit their own needs, it's important to not get carried away. Keep in mind that chicken tractors are meant to be moved frequently, so keeping the weight and bulk manageable is important. The general rule of thumb is that you should provide 3-4 square feet of area per chicken. Most chicken tractors are designed for just a few chickens, so verify that the size plans you choose are of the appropriate size, or that you can easily modify the design.

Some basic considerations to keep in mind when reviewing chicken tractor plans is to make sure they address the basic minimum design features. The design should keep your chickens safe from predators such as foxes, snakes and raccoons. Because chickens produce moisture through sweating and their waste, the enclosed area should have provisions for plenty of ventilation. Of course there should be access to food and water at all times, and a secure nesting box should be provided for every 3-4 chickens.

Chickens have many natural predators including foxes, raccoons, snakes, opossums, and even domestic dogs. Making sure that you keep them protected is among the primary purposes of chicken tractors. If you live in an area with many natural predators, a more permanent structure may be a better choice, as some predators can be very persistent (think raccoons). Chicken tractors are particularly well suited for urban or suburban settings where the natural predator population is somewhat limited.

An often overlooked factor in many chicken tractor plans is to ensure that the enclosed area is accessible and easy to clean. It's important to the health of your chickens to periodically clean the environment. This will also serve to reduce or eliminate unpleasant odors in your yard. Some chicken tractor designs will actually have two doors-one for the chickens and a second larger one designed to facilitate ease of cleaning.

There are many types of [chicken tractor plans](#) available, but the most popular is the A-frame design. Not only does it give the chickens plenty of shade from the heat and sun, but it also gives you plenty of space for food, water and for the chickens to nest. A-frame chicken tractors are lightweight as well so they are easy to move and they are quite easy to clean because they are taller than the square type of chicken tractor. Especially for beginners, these types of chicken tractors are quite easy to build and the tractor plans itself are readily available.