

Why love one... but eat the other?



- Like the companion animals we cherish, chickens by nature are inquisitive, affectionate, and personable.
- Chickens are intelligent problem-solvers who possess some cognitive abilities more advanced than those of cats, dogs, and even some primates, including human toddlers.
- Chickens have close family ties. They will fight foxes and eagles to protect their own kin and mourn the loss of a loved one.
- A mother hen begins bonding with her chicks, even before they hatch, by softly clucking to her unhatched young, who chirp back to her from inside their shells.



The factory farming photos above are courtesy of Jo-Anne McArthur (WeAnimals.org), Mercy For Animals Canada, and Toronto Chicken Save.

Yet, each year in Canada, 643 million chickens raised for meat live and die in nightmarish conditions. Crammed by the thousands into filthy windowless sheds, they suffer ammonia burns from their own waste and may be trampled or suffocated from the overcrowding. At the hatchery, chicks have their beak tips and, sometimes, toes amputated without any painkillers. Chickens have been genetically selected to grow so large they become crippled under their own weight. Egg-laying chickens spend their entire lives packed so tightly together in wire battery cages they're barely able to move. Male chicks have no value to the egg industry, so annually almost 30 million chicks are thrown away, literally as trash, within hours of hatching - either being ground up alive in giant macerators or left to suffocate in garbage bags and bins.

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