



Layers vs Broilers | Which is More Profitable?

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Choosing between raising layers or broilers depends on many factors like how much time and money do you have? Are you good at risk taking? **Broilers** are chicken that are bred for their meat production, they will grow up to 2-2.5kg size (with good feeding!) in 6 weeks from chicks to chicken for sale at the market. **Broilers** gain weight so much that 6 weeks will be enough to sell, 8 weeks means they get too heavy and should be killed. **Layers** are smaller chickens raised for laying eggs every 26 hours for over 1 year, weigh about 1.8kg at adult.

#### Broilers:

1. Need to be sold off after 6 weeks
2. You need to have your market sorted when you start raising the broilers.
3. You need to have a refrigerator for keeping the slaughtered broiler chickens.
4. Have a 2<sup>nd</sup> market buyer options for selling off your broiler chickens.
5. Broiler startup costs is cheaper than layers.
6. Vaccines and medication costs are smaller.
7. Sick broilers at 2-3 weeks are problematic, but 6-8 weeks sick broilers can be killed and sold off.
8. Skilled labor demand is smaller as you gain experience in 6 weeks intervals.
9. Broilers take less time from you, you can raise until 4 weeks and then supervising only for the next 2 weeks.
10. Broilers return profits faster but you need to keep large numbers of broilers and you need large, constant demand for the meat.

#### Layers:

1. Eggs are made and can be kept on the farm for up to 1 month before selling off.
2. Egg prices mostly depend on the area you are selling in or located.
3. Layers cost more to start up than Broilers, they consume more feed for 18-21 weeks before egg laying. Vaccines, perches, debeaking and more are needed.
4. Layers require a larger number of chickens to get a good profit margin, a minimum of 500 chickens.
5. Skill labor needed are more like vaccination times, handling diseases, etc.
6. Layers demand more time for longer and more intensity.
7. Long-term revenue and profits after 2 years are higher over the long term since you get lots of eggs and the birds eventually.