

Picking a Breed

By Elizabeth Clapp

When you pick a breed, the first thing you want to do is research. See what available space you have outside to keep the birds, if you have enough space for big sized birds, or little. Research what type of bird you want, like colors, sizes and shapes. Good things to research is to look in books, go online, ask people, visit people's houses, and visit big shows. If you visit peoples houses, you can also see how the set-up of their coops are to give you an idea. When you do find the type of breed you want, it is extremely important that you "buy smart". You want to buy from a clean flock (clean meaning health, pullorum tested negative, no mites ect.). Remember, the most important thing is that you buy a healthy clean bird, it does not have to be award winning in very class ! and that you have fun with it !!! Below are 2 types of breeds and information about them:

Old English Bantams

Good things:

Size – Little birds, good for your first breed.

Many varieties – Lots of colors to choose from.

Old English have good personalities.

Bad things:

You have to dub them in order to show them.

Males can be aggressive.

Old English are a very popular breed so lots of times it's hard to win with them because there is lots of competition.

Modern Game Bantams

Good things:

Easy to handle.

Their long legs and sleek shape are very unique.
Good personalities.

Bad things:

You have to have them dubbed in order to show them.

Not as common of a breed, they might be harder to find.

Sometimes they are hard to catch if they are running around because of their long legs, they are fast.