

# Australian Spotted Ducks

Bantam ducks make great pets and they lay green eggs



Duckling



Adults

If you want birds that are always happy, get ducks. No fair weather birds here, ducks love it wet, and cold, or hot. It doesn't matter what conditions are like, a duck is prepared for it. They are far more winter hardy than any chicken and when it gets really hot, they know the best way to cool off is a swim.

Australian Spotted ducks are quite rare, but are among the hardiest and easiest to manage breeds of ducks. Being small, they eat less and need less space, while still producing a fair number of green eggs. When handled frequently, ducklings can become very tame and make excellent pets.

They are however, "sitting ducks" when it comes to predators. Please protect them well. They also love water and they know the recipe for mud! If you consider where the water drains in their pen and put the water on a short platform that allows the water to drain away, you will have minimal problems. Ducks don't need water to swim it (but they like it), but they need it deep enough to dip their head under to get clean. In the pen pictured above, they are on a wire floor with a built-in pool. This makes it much easier to keep them clean and give them clean water.

**Ducklings, straight run \$10**