

Bantam Duck Pen

Ducks are better than chickens in almost every way, except for two things, they are more prone to getting taken by predators, and where ever they find water, a sloppy mess is soon to follow. The pen shown here takes care of both those issues. It is completely predator-proof and the mess is easily contained and cleaned. Almost all of the manure ends up in the pool or drop through the wire bottom.

Overall dimensions are 3ft x 8ft, 4 ft high. Six Australian Spotted ducks live comfortably in here



Interior view of the dry area. This shows pine shavings, but hay works far better. Food is placed in this shelter. They sleep and lay their eggs here. A heated water bowl in the wire section is visible on the right.



Ducks sunning themselves poolside

The pool is a plastic mixing tub from a home center, with a kitchen sink drain plumbed into the bottom for ease of draining. A 5 gallon bucket fits under the drain, or you can hook up a pool discharge hose. The pool is sunk into the fire floor. A brick is placed over the drain to prevent the ducks from pulling it and to give them a place to stand.

Frequent cleaning (daily is best) of the pool is needed, but the sleeping area of this pen has remained clean for months. The entire pen can be moved to prevent killing the grass under the pen. The water from the pool is a fantastic, dilute, organic fertilizer that you can put on any area you wish to "green up".

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