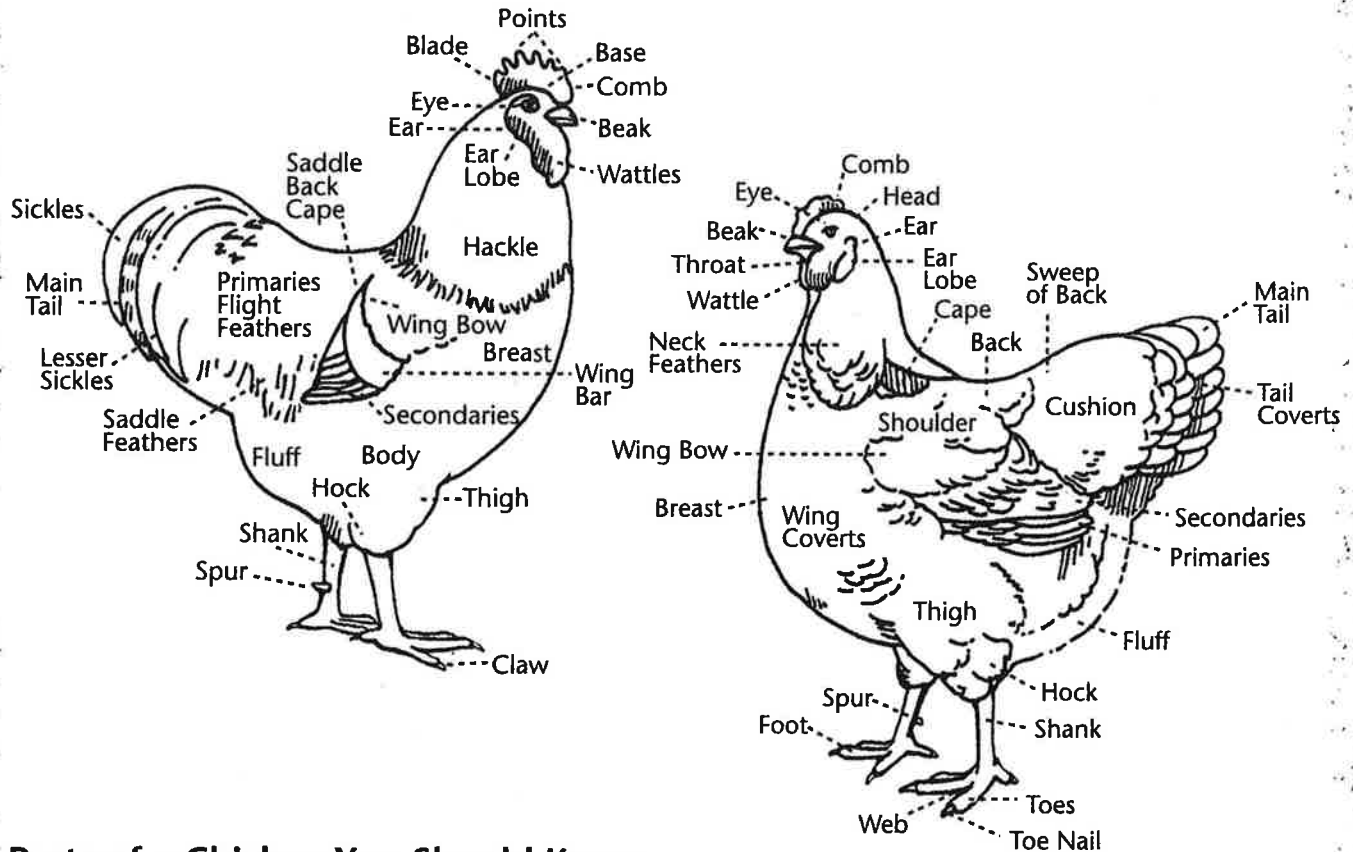


fair, try to spot wash with a rag or towel. On show day, be sure your birds are clean and ready for the judge. A little baby oil or vaseline put on the combs and legs will help to brighten them up. No other grooming should be needed. Any broken or poorly colored feathers may be pulled from the main body. The main wing and tail feathers should never be pulled. The deduction for broken feathers is less than that for missing ones. Be proud of your exhibit and hard work.

Parts Of A Chicken

The judge may ask you to name some parts of a chicken. Study these parts carefully so you will be able to answer questions. You should be able to show a judge the parts on your bird as well as name them. Also, study the different classes of birds and know what class your birds are in. The pictures of the combs should help you identifying different types of chickens.



Parts of a Chicken You Should Know

Showmanship

In showmanship classes, you are being judged on your knowledge, care and handling of the birds. Be sure you know how to properly handle a chicken. The table on page 21 should help you in learning showmanship techniques.

Getting Ready For The Show Questions

1. What is meant by the term condition ?
2. When is your fair?
3. Do you plan to exhibit at your fair?
4. Name six parts of a chicken.

| Procedure | How Done | Reason |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Remove bird from exhibition coop. | Always head first with one hand over back, the other under body with fingers around legs. | Prevents excitement and struggle of bird to get away. |
| 2. Hold the bird. | Pick up bird by spreading your fingers and placing your hand palm up under the bird's breast as it faces you. As your palm touches the breast, you will find that the bird's legs will be between your fingers. As you lift the bird, gently grasp the legs by closing the fingers. You can now lift the bird without having it squirm and fight | Makes the bird feel at ease. Isn't so likely to struggle. The bird is easy to handle. |
| 3. Examine head. | Hold head of bird alert by prodding at the region of the wattles. | To note comb, eyes, shape of head, and any defects present. |
| 4. Examine wings. | Open either wing with free hand. To open the other wing, merely pass hand, palm up, over to that side. Grasp wing bow and fan out wing. (There is no need to transfer bird to other hand.) | To note color, absence of feathers, slipped wings, split wings and twisted feathers. |
| 5. Examine body plumage. | Over back, on breast and body. | To note color and quality, presence of lice. |
| 6. Examine tail plumage. | Give the tail piece a quick flip up and down. | For color and feather quality. To detect tail defects. |
| 7. Examine shanks and feet. | Place free hand on back of bird. Turn bird upside down. Back of bird should rest in the palm of the hand. | To note color, crooked toes, feather stubs between toes and on shanks. |
| 8. Examine body. | Hold as in No. 7 | To note width and depth of body and amount of fleshing on body – also body defects. |
| 9. Hand bird to judge. | Head first. | To let him check and verify and points he desires. |
| 10. Return bird to coop. | Head first. | To keep bird smooth and unruffled. |
| 11. Return to position by the coop. | Keep your bird on the alert until judge has made a decision. | Give judge better opportunity to see the bird. |