

Mud Management

One of the biggest problems during wet weather is keeping your chickens run clean and free of mud. We have used this system for over 10 years and you can see it in use here.

Steps	Example
<p>Level the area as much as possible, fill in any holes and remove any stones or sharp objects from the run area.</p> <p>Lay down our green turf protector mat or black rubber mats. Your chickens will be constantly scratching at the woodchips and without this layer they will soon scratch their way through to the soil below and mix it with the woodchips.</p>	 
<p>Cover with a thick layer of bark free woodchips.</p> <p>Bark is not a suitable base as it is a mulch which will hold onto water & make the area damp. It also gives off Aspergillus spores which are harmful to chickens.</p>	 
<p>To maintain the run, regularly rake over and scatter a ground sanitiser such as Agrisec 250 over the woodchips.</p> <p>The woodchips will need replacing over time but by raking them over and using a sanitiser it will extend the lifespan.</p>	

Tips

Place a pallet directly outside the hen house door - this will act as a 'doormat' for your chickens and they will clean their feet before going into the chicken house - the house and the eggs will stay cleaner.

Fix an upstand around the run to prevent woodchips being kicked out - garden border edging can work well for this.