

ChickenGuard

Put the fun back into keeping Chickens



STANDARD CHICKENGUARD



PREMIUM CHICKENGUARD



EXTREME CHICKENGUARD



Door installation and mounting the Control Box.



Configuring the Automatic Door Opener



User Guide

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1 Getting Started

FOUR IMPORTANT NOTES THAT YOU MUST READ IF NOTHING ELSE!

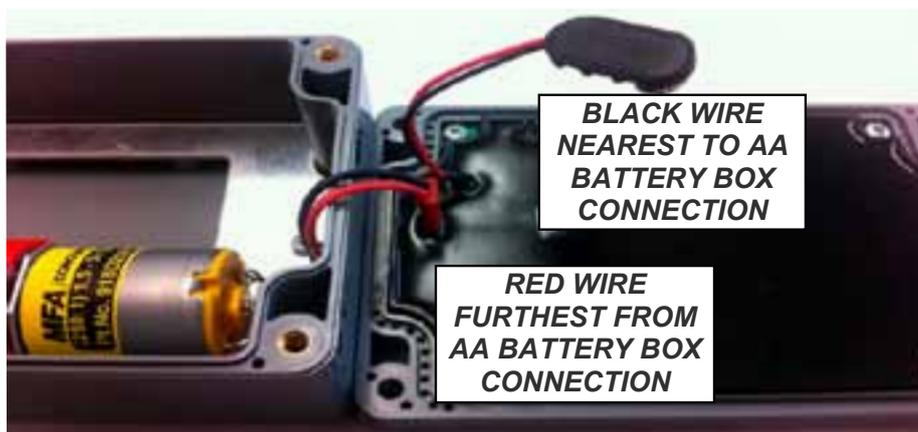
- 1. INSTALL THE SILICONE SEAL AROUND THE LID OF THE BOX. This will prevent water and moisture entering the box and minimise possible water ingress problems in the future. Not putting this seal in place INVALIDATES YOUR WARRANTY.**
- 2. ONLY USE AA BATTERIES. Using 9v batteries will damage your unit and again invalidates your warranty (we test the last voltage through the box so will know!)**
- 3. DO NOT PINCH THE BATTERY WIRES BETWEEN THE LID AND THE BASE WHEN YOU SCREW THE LID ON. This will prevent any power getting to your motor and yet again invalidate your warranty.**
- 4. The Automatic Pop-hole Door Opener is designed to open vertical doors and we would strongly advise the use of the optional aluminium door and runners available from our website www.flytesofancy.co.uk. If, however, you want to use your existing door, it must not exceed 1kg (or 2.5kg with the High Power Motor option).**

Optional Door installation: First, fix one of the runners in place and slide the door into the slot. Then put the second guide into place making sure that the door can run freely to the fully open and fully closed position allowing a small amount of "wriggle room" for the door. Once you are happy with the fit, screw the second door runner in place.

ChickenGuard Control Box installation: You will need to attach the Control Box to the outside of your coop. Position the Control Box lifting wire centrally to the door allowing at least a 3 - 4 inch gap between the top of the Door when in the fully open position and the bottom of the Control Box. Once complete, attach the draw string to the door making sure that you maintain tension to prevent it from unravelling on the spindle. Always position the box upright, installing it sideways or upside down will not work. Do not manually pull out the string.

Now attach the small silicone seal found in the ziplock bag. This needs to be put into the recess seen around the outside of the front panel as it is used to seal the enclosure from water ingress. You MUST start on the bottom edge, cutting any excess off. Failure to use this seal invalidates your warranty.

Lastly, you may now connect the batteries and motor lead paying particular attention to the orientation of the motor lead connector. The red lead orients AWAY FROM the battery connection lead and the black lead NEAREST TO the battery connection lead. If you find that the door is closing when you press Open for example, then the orientation is incorrect and simply turn the connector around. There is also a cut-out in the motor base plate for the battery box to sit. It is important that the box sits in this recess otherwise it will make contact with the front panel.

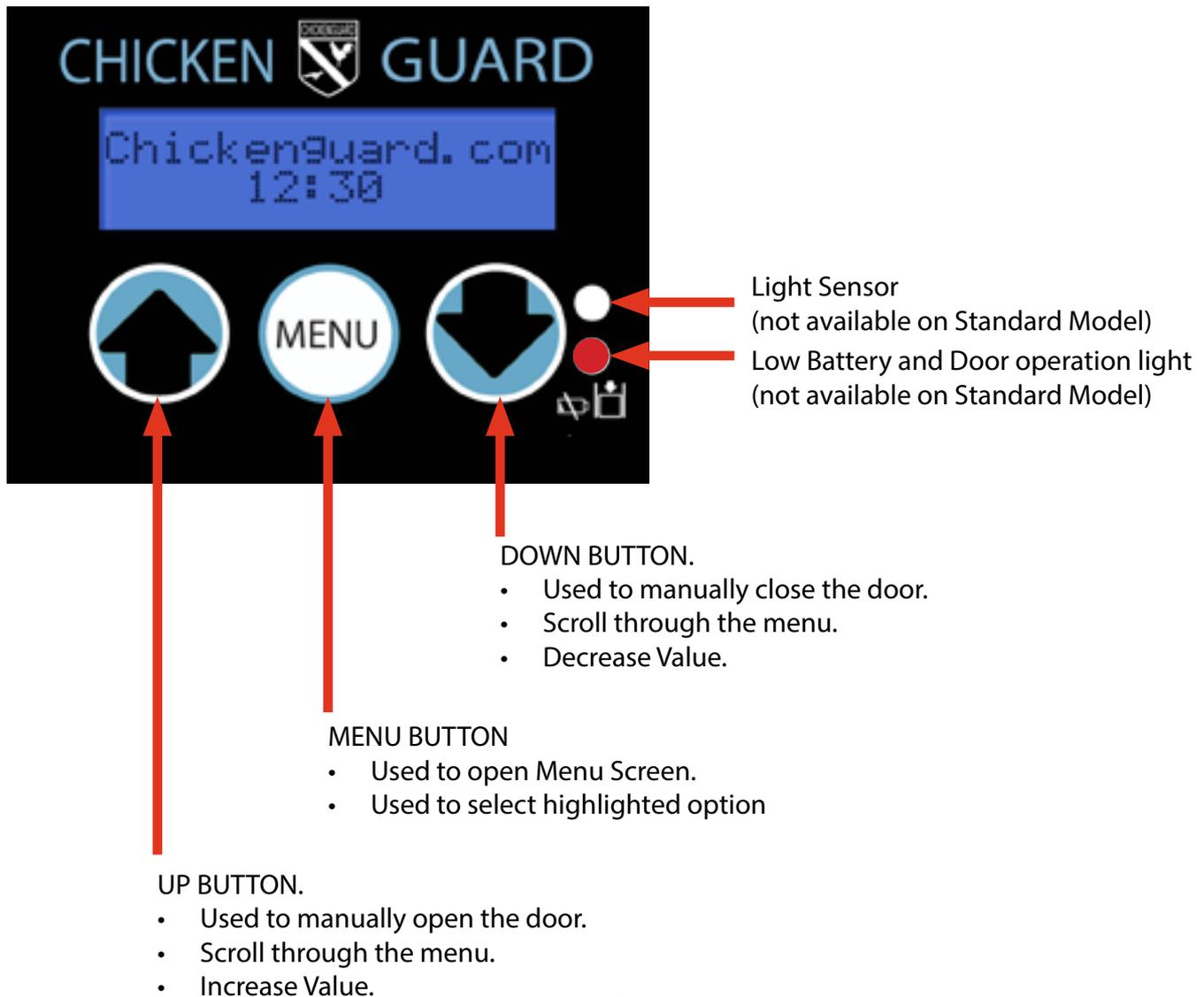


2 Knowing Your ChickenGuard

There are four models of ChickenGuard each with differing specifications to offer you the door opener solution that you need. The graphic below demonstrates the features available on each particular model.

ChickenGuard Model	Manual Override	Timer	Light Sensor	Maximum Door Weight
Standard (AS)	✓	✓	✗	1kg
Premium (ASTi)	✓	✓	✓	1kg
Premium with HD Motor (ASTi-HD)	✓	✓	✓	3kg
Extreme with HD Motor (ASTiX)	✓	✓	✓	3kg

Navigating Your ChickenGuard





If you have a weightier timber door on your henhouse you can find that the ChickenGuard may struggle to raise the door which can lead to the batteries running down quickly or the motor "burning out"

If you feel that your door may be too heavy you can opt to install a lightweight aluminium door as pictured right

User Guide

The ChickenGuard AS Series Pop Hole Door Opener is available in two versions, the AS and the ASTi. Functionally, they are both the same with the exception that the ASTi also has an onboard light sensor giving you extra functionality.

This gives you the flexibility to mix and match the settings so that you could for example have the door programmed to Open at a set time in the morning and use the light sensor in the evening to close the door.

Manual Override

One of the most overlooked features of a Door Opener is the ability to easily Open or Close the door manually. With ChickenGuard this is as simple as pressing either the Open or Close button. Let's say you are going out one evening and want the hens locked up early. You shoo your flock in and press the Close button, but wait, you've seen one left out. No problem, just Open the door again this time making sure they are all accounted for and then Close the door. No matter how many times you Open or Close the door, it will not effect the next door cycle.

You may also program the Door Opener for a manual Opening or Closing cycle. This can be useful if you have ducks for example which are not creatures of habit, so you could manually Close them in at night but then have timed Opening in the mornings.

Door Closed Indicator.

Sitting just below the Light Sensor, you will see a small LED labelled "Low Bat -SHUT-." This is a dual function indicator. When the LED is constantly lit, this means that the batteries have become unusable and need to be changed, however it also acts as a visual confirmation that the door has closed. When the door is in the fully closed position, the LED will flash every 30 seconds or so. Obviously this feature will not function when the Low Battery Indicator is illuminated as the batteries need to be changed!

3 Calibrating your ChickenGuard Door

The first task after fitting your ChickenGuard Door opener and attaching it to your sliding door is to calibrate it. This can be done by carrying out the following procedure.

 Press the Menu Button to enter Programming Mode

  Using the up or down buttons scroll through the menu until you find the calibrate door message.



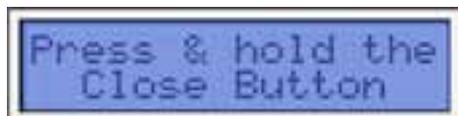
 Press the Menu Button to enter Calibration Mode

The Screen should now read "Press & hold the Open Button"



 Press the Up Button until the door is fully open then release the button. If you have positioned the ChickenGuard Control Box too close to the door you can also press the down button to lower the door. When Opening the door leave at least a 3~4 inch gap between the top of the door and the ChickenGuard Control Box.

The Screen should now read "Press & hold the Down Button"



 Press the Down Button until the door is fully closed then release the button. The door will now return to the up position you just set. Your calibration is now complete.



To check that the Door is Opening and Closing to the correct positions, simply press the relevant button. If you need to adjust the position you may repeat the procedure above as many times as necessary.

4 Setting The Time on Your ChickenGuard

The next step is to set the time on the unit. This can be done by carrying out the following procedure.

 Press the Menu button to enter the Time Mode

  Press Open or Close button to scroll through the Menu until you find the set time message.



 Press the Menu button to enter the Time Mode

  Use the Up and Down buttons To increase or decrease the hours.



 Press the Menu button to confirm the hours

  Use the Up and Down buttons To increase or decrease the minutes.



 Press the Menu button to save the time.

After you have pressed MENU for the final time, you will automatically be taken back to the main display showing something similar to this:



5 What the Door Settings Do

Timer

You may set the Opening or Closing cycle for a specific time of day for example 6.30am to Open or 17.30pm to Close. To set this, scroll through the options until you find "Timer" and press the MENU button. Set the Open or Close time in the same way as you configured the system time.

Sensor (not avail. on AS)

The Control Box has a small light sensor located on the front panel which measures the amount of light so that you can set the Door to Close when it gets dark in the evenings and Open in the mornings. To set this feature, scroll through the options until you find "Sensor" and press the MENU button to select this option. To adjust the sensitivity of the sensor, please refer to the User Guide.

LUX++ (closing only)

If the light sensor has difficulty picking up the light level, for example if it is pointing due West at the setting sun, you may also set a time at which, should the door not close using the Light Sensor, it will then activate based on a preset time. To set this, scroll through the options until you find LUX++ and press the MENU button. Set the LUX++ time in the same way as you configured the system time. Remember, this feature is only available for the Closing Settings.

Manual

When set to Manual for either the Opening or Closing cycles you will have to manually Open or Close the Door. You may for example set the Door to Open at a set time in the morning and have a manual Closing setting. To set this up, scroll through the options until you find "Manual" and press the MENU button.

Mix them up!

You may also mix and match! Set the Door Opener to activate for a timed Opening in the mornings and use the light sensor in the evenings or any other combination.

6 Setting Your Opening & Closing Preferences



Press the Menu button to enter the Programming Mode



Press Open or Close button to scroll through the Menu until you find Open Settings

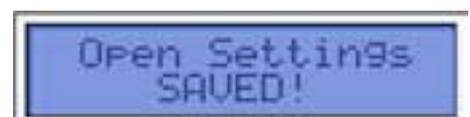


Press the Menu button to enter the Door Settings Mode

Using the Open or Close button, scroll through the Door Control options and press the Menu button to set your preference



Press the Menu button to save the setting



Now repeat this procedure for the Closing settings.

6 Adjusting the Light Sensor

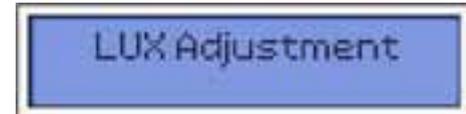
Depending on where you have located the Control Box on your coop, you may want to adjust the sensitivity of the Light Sensor as not all hens rise in the mornings or go to bed at the same time. To do this, simply follow the instructions below.



Press the Menu button to enter the Programming Mode



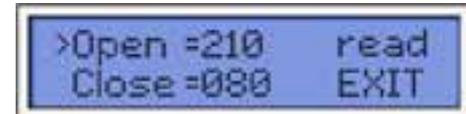
Press Up or Down button to scroll through the Menu until you find the LUX Adjustment Option



Press the Menu button to enter the Set Light Level Mode



Press the Up and Down to select the opening or closing light level



Press the Menu button to edit the selected setting.



Press the Up and Down to increase or decrease the setting value.

Opening Sensitivity:

Open when its lighter (later), INCREASE the number (max 250)

Open when its darker (earlier), DECREASE the number (min 200)

DEFAULT SETTING = 210

Closing Sensitivity:

Close when its lighter, INCREASE the number (max 199)

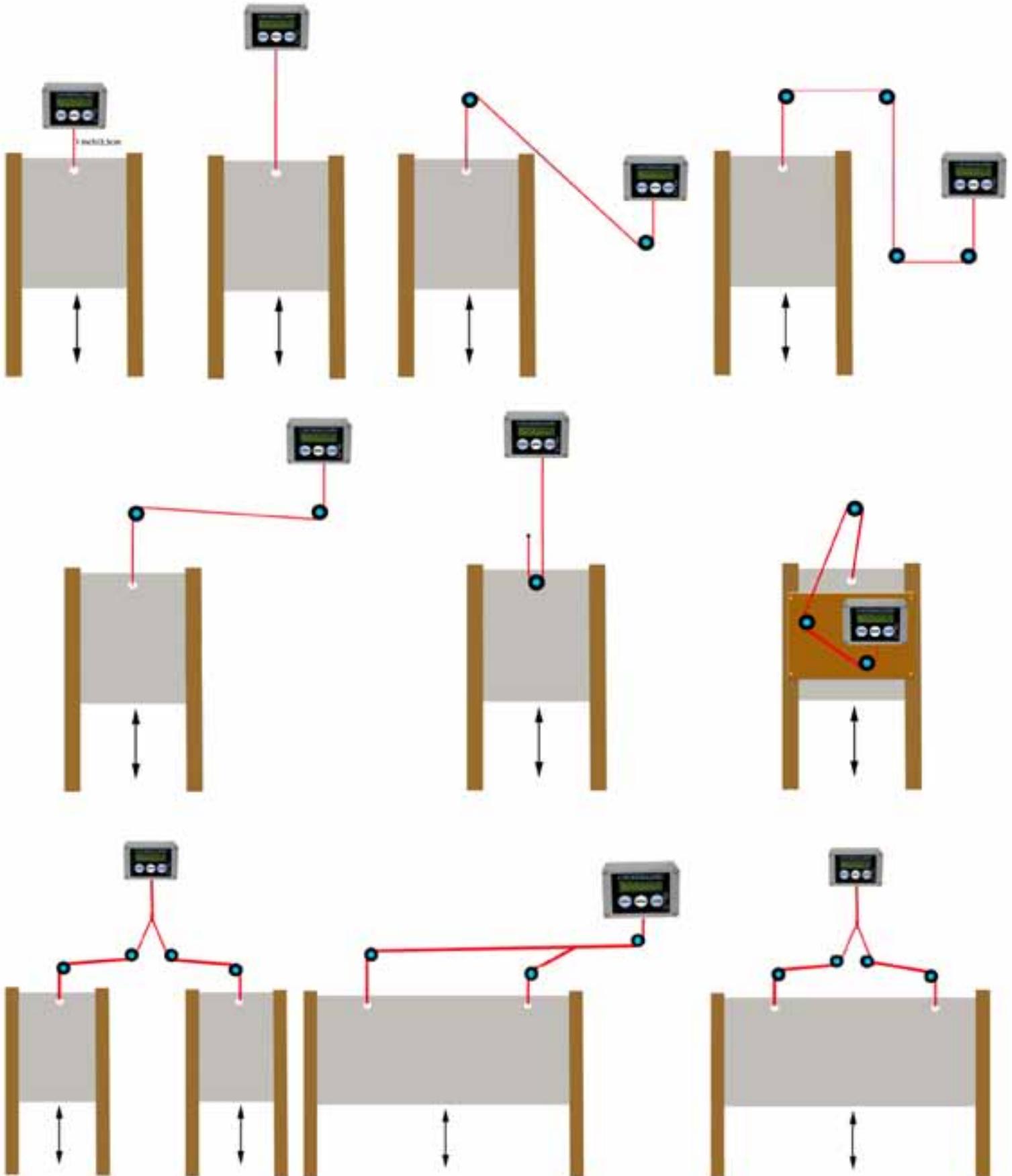
Open when its darker , DECREASE the number (min 20)

DEFAULT SETTING = 80

We would suggest that should you want to adjust these settings, change them only by a value of 10 in either direction and then wait until the next Open or Close cycle to check the sensitivity. If the door is still opening or closing too early or late, repeat the steps above by changing the value by a further 10 until you find the ideal setting. Remember that you may also use the LUX++ setting for the Closing cycle. To help find the ideal setting it is possible to get a "spot" reading of the light level by running the "read" feature in the LUX Adjustment Menu. The display will flash when reading the light level for around 5 seconds. The number displayed is the averaged spot reading.

7 Using Pulleys with the Chicken Guard

As stated on page 1, the ChickenGuard Control Box should be installed approximately 4~5 Inches above the full open door. There are however occasions where this cannot be done due to the size and shape of some houses. In these situations the use of a pulley can enable the use of the ChickenGuard in this scenario. You can see some examples of the various uses of pulleys below.



8 Common Error Messages

Low Battery Message:

When the batteries have become unusable, a warning will be displayed on the screen and the Low Bat LED will be permanently illuminated. Change the batteries and remember to re-calibrate the door. We would however suggest that you change the batteries every six months.

Door Jam Message:

This is a general error message usually caused when there has been an obstruction of the door or the batteries are running low resulting in the door moving extremely slowly. It can also be caused if the door weight exceeds that specified. If in doubt please contact ChickenGuard

Battery Life and Door Weights:

We recommend using good quality, high capacity AA alkaline batteries and not rechargeable ones as they do not perform well in cold weather or retain their charge for extended periods of time. We also recommend changing them every six months, at the beginning of winter and spring as cold weather can severely affect battery capacity.

The maximum rated door weight on a Standard or Premium unit should not exceed 1kg or 3kg in the case of Premium Units with HD Motor and the ChickenGuard Extreme. Bear in mind that the heavier the door, the more power will be required to lift it which will affect the overall battery life.

9 Problems not covered in manual?

If you encounter an error with your ChickenGuard that is not covered in this instruction manual please consult the manufacturer ChickenGuard through their contact details below;

Manufacturers Contact Details

Chicken Guard
Unit 2, Station Yard, Station Road
Fulbourn, Cambridge
CB21 5ET
Tel: 0845 868 5817
Email: info@chickenguard.com

Purchase Information

Date Of Purchase:	
Order Number:	

For Your Own Notes

For Your Own Notes

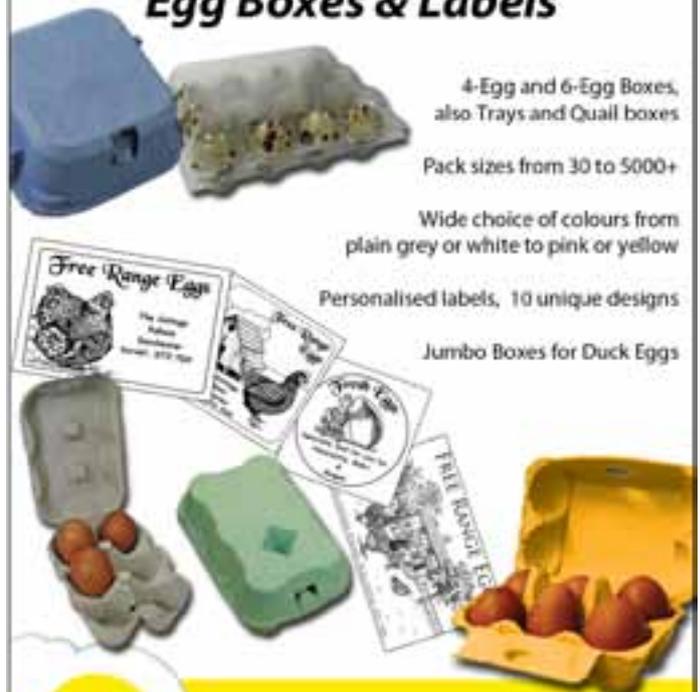


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