

"HANSEN HOUSE"Craig Hansen, Owner
Riverside, Iowa

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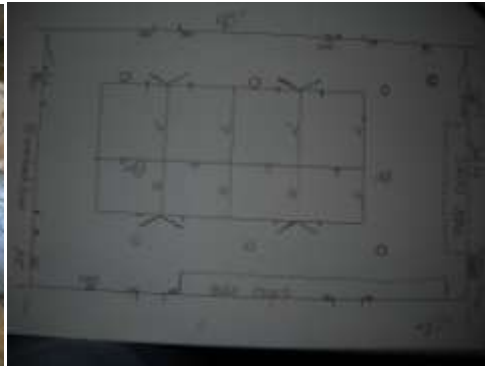
Picture 1. The outside of the new coop

Picture 2. Cages are 2'x2' x16". Cage fronts are salvage fronts from old laying cages. That is the only part of the laying cage I used. I cut off and discarded everything else. I first saw fronts like this used in Matt McCammon's coop. Bottom is 1" x 1" vinyl coated wire. I was going to make 1 long row of pens. Instead I decided to make each set 10' long so it can be easily moved later if that seems to be the right thing to do. The boards under the wire catch the poo and slide out for easy cleaning. 14 cages cleaned in about 5 minutes. The cage fronts allow me to hang food and water on the front making more room in the cage and EASY feeding and watering. And if it splashes it is not in the cage. Concrete floor makes all cleanup easier. Sweeps quickly and pens scoop out fast also.

Picture 3. Shot down the center of building at the 8 pens. All pens on the left are 7' x 6' and on the right are 5' x 6'. I mounted roosts in each pen so they can perch if they want but high enough they can also walk under without hitting it. I can clean the pen with a shovel and not worry about running into the perches.



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Picture 4. Showing that I am using pig feeders mounted on the wall for feed in many pens. I will go to that in all pens eventually. It frees up about 2 sq ft of floor space by not using the round feeder that hang or set on the floor. Makes cleaning pens easier. I will free up much more floor space when I get the self waterers mounted this spring. Hope they work as I hear they do.

Picture 5. A 5-minute drawing of my plan. I put a 100 amp electrical service in and plenty of outlets.

Picture 6. Shows how much floor space the feeder takes in the Black pen. Every pen has a plywood divider that prevents fight from pen to pen and drafts at floor level. I can open the door and get fresh air in without having drafts in the pen.



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Picture 7. My air filtration system. I can keep the dust to a minimum. I also wear an N95 dust mask to try to prevent asthma issues. I was going to hang it but then realized that it is much easier to service a waist high level instead of being 6' up. The air filtration system I chose is designed for woodworking shops and filters down to .3 microns. I am still working with tuning it to my size building. I has 3 speeds and variable run length options built in. Mostly I let it run. I use a shop vac to remove the filter dust. The amount of dust it traps is amazing and the air looks clear in there even when closed up.