Thank you for purchasing the finest automatic chicken door on the market today! As a very small company, we truly appreciate your business and the opportunity to share our passion of sharing innovative products with customers like you.

**-For best results we recommend using the CowTech default settings on the door.**

**-When installing the mounting screws, please ensure that they are installed centered or slightly outside of center on the frame so they don’t contact the acrylic plates that are routed into channels in the frame.**

**-If you ever encounter any type of issue with the door, turn it off and then on again.**

Features:

What’s in the box?

1x Hatch Automatic Chicken Door

1x Mounting Hardware

1x Power Supply (Standard Kits Only)

1x Solar Panel (Off-Grid Kits Only)

1x Instruction Sheet

* Automated light sensor
* No Hen Left Behind automated late entry
* Backlit Controls
* Direct drive locking door to guarantee close and prevent predator entry
* Adjustable open and close times
* Optional temperature cutoff to keep birds inside in inclement weather
* Weatherproof circuit board
* Manual Open/Close Option
* Magnetic Access Door
* No maintenance, no fade PVC and Plexiglass construction
* 12+ day battery life with no charge

A great deal of effort was put into the design and coding of The Hatch to ensure that it will operate without significant user input. **For best results we recommend using the CowTech default settings on the door.** However, if you want to adjust the time that your door opens and closes, as well as turn on and adjust the temperature cutoff, we will explain how to do so.

**If you have a standard door, it can be easily converted to an off-grid model by purchasing the kit from our site and installing on your door.**

The Hatch has a power jack on the side of the door to plug in a 6v power supply or a solar panel if you have an off-grid kit. The light sensor on the front of the door measures ambient light to determine when to open and close the door when in automatic mode. This sensor is built into the door and does not need to be in direct sunlight. Shaded or shadowed conditions will only slightly change the opening response of The Hatch.

To conserve battery, The Hatch checks its sensors once every 4 seconds. There are 6 input functions on the door. The opening time control will allow you to adjust when the door opens in the morning. Turning counter clockwise will cause the door to open earlier. All the dials have a roughly 270 degree rotation, so they will turn significantly past the 90 degrees that are marked on the circuit board. **The labels correspond to the extreme left and extreme right of the dials, and not where the dial actually points.** For example, to set the temperature cutoff to 50 degrees F, turn the dial fully clockwise, do not stop where the needle points at 50.

Turning the closing time control counter clockwise will cause the door to close earlier in the day.

The temperature adjustment knob controls the temperature lockout function of the door. If the knob is turned all the way counter-clockwise, it will disable the temperature lockout. This is the standard position the doors will ship in. If you turn the knob slightly clockwise the status indicator light on the power switch will change its flashing pattern to 2 quick flashes, which indicates that the temperature lockout is enabled. If the knob is turned all the way clockwise, it means the door will wait until it is 50 degrees F outside before the door will open. If the knob is set counter-clockwise to where it is just enabled, it will open the door when the temperature warms to 0 degrees F before it opens.

Like all thermometers The Hatch is sensitive to direct sunlight, and as the temperature sensor is located inside the box, a “greenhouse effect” could occur. It is possible that The Hatch will read the outside temperature slightly higher than what the actual temperature is. If the unit is placed in direct sunlight, the temperature may be sensed significantly higher than actual outdoor temperature.

The small reset button underneath the temperature knob is a momentary switch that will reset the door. Pressing the power switch on and off will do the same thing.

There is a manual control switch with Up, Down, and Auto functions. If for some reason you want to bypass the automatic function of the door you can toggle these switches to the appropriate location. **If switching from Manual to Auto mode, please reset the door by pressing the power switch or the reset button.**

The power switch located on the front of the unit turns it on and can be used as a diagnostic tool, as it flashes specific patterns based on the status of the door. 1 flash indicates normal operation of the door. 2 flashes indicate the temperature cutoff is enabled and the door is operating normally. Three flashes indicate NHLB (No Hen Left Behind) is activated, and the door is in the process of closing for about 15 minutes before opening for 5 minutes to let in any stragglers, and then closing again. A constant on light means the motor is activated and the door is either actively opening or closing.

There is a white LED backlight at the top of the board that turns on when it gets dark outside so that you can easily adjust or control the door functions in dark or low light conditions.

In automatic mode, whatever function the door first decides to do will be prioritized, and an artificial threshold is enabled for the other function. For example, if the door first opens, the threshold to close will be raised temporarily, and it will have to become significantly darker to close the door. This is to prevent repeated up/downs if the open and close settings are set to similar light thresholds.

If you have an Off-Grid kit, you will need to mount the solar panel using the two small nails included in the kit. Drive them at a downward angle and hang the panel as if you would a painting using the small holes in the back of the panel frame. The panel comes with a 15 foot cord so you can ensure that it faces south even if your door does not. Just pointing it south and hanging it flat on a wall with the included hardware usually sufficient, but if you want to install the panel so it is tilted slightly upwards at the sun that would be best!

If you have any questions or comments we would love to hear from you. You can find us at [www.cowtechengineering.com](http://www.cowtechengineering.com) or send an email to [info@cowtechengineering.com](mailto:info@cowtechengineering.com)

HELP!

First, thank you and congratulations on being one of the very first people in the world with a Hatch Automatic Chicken Door. Because your orders are the very first shipments of our door, you are the primary real-world testers for our product. It would help us immensely if you could report anything you notice, good or bad about the door. If there is anything we need to change, we want to ensure we catch it as soon as possible so we can modify the new doors coming off the line. We believe we have created the finest auto chicken door in the world and we want to ensure that belief is correct. To do that, we need your help. Should we add information to the instructions? Is there something functionally wrong with the door? Should we include different mounting hardware? Etc. Please feel free to email us at [info@cowtechengineering.com](mailto:info@cowtechengineering.com) or text me (Jason) directly at (406)-930-0266. You can also find this contact information on our website, [www.cowtechengineering.com](http://www.cowtechengineering.com).