

# Generic small Ibis rearing protocol

Please note this is a general guideline – some species may develop at a quicker/slower rate.



**Cotswold**  
**Wildlife**  
**Park**  
**and**  
**Gardens**



DAY	BROODER	FREQ.	DIET (By weight)	INTAKE	MISC.
0	Temp 36 degrees  Leave in hatcher until dry then transfer to brooder.  Nest bowl lined with cotton towel or paper towels – add suitable non slip material over the top to enable bird to grip.  If sticks are used make sure they are not a size that could be picked up and ingested.		First feed not before 24 hours old.  Offer distilled water with a pinch of paediatric 2-3 times during first 24 hours - warmed through before feeding. (Stand syringe in a mug of warm water 35°C.)		Weigh chick daily first thing before feeding – this is the weight you will use daily to calculate appropriate intake.  Umbilicus wiped with antiseptic.
1	Brooder temperature to be started at 36 degrees, gradually decrease to the comfort of the chick. To warm or cold will affect digestion of food. Monitor chick closely, if it shivers increase temperature slightly, if it is panting or lethargic decrease temperature slightly.	4 feeds daily 7am, 11am, 3pm, 7pm	100g cat food 40ml distilled water Pinch of Nutrobal Above ingredients put through blender	Feed no more than 10% morning body weight at each feed.	Feed chick under a heat lamp so it does not chill. Check diet temperature on wrist before feeding – if the formula is cold the chick may refuse to feed. Too hot and you could cause burning.  Discard any unused food after each feed.  A healthy chick is vocal and eager to feed.
3	34 degrees				
4-5					Eyes starting to open – pin feathers coming through
7			Start to introduce small chunks of cat food  Mixture made a little thicker - 30ml water to 100g cat food		
9-10	32 degrees  Move to larger area with access to small perches for grip development.				Pin feathers should be starting to emerge on wings – preening behaviour.
20		3 feeds daily			
26			Increase solid food		
28			Solid food only – introduce minced day old chicks		
40 - 43	Room temp	2 feeds daily	Adult diet		Should start to self feed

Imprinting can be a problem, where possible minimise human contact and if reared with siblings it will be less of a problem.