



# Hen House SOLUTION

This is a standard logic puzzle. The solution requires knowing both where each hen roosts and which hens laid eggs on which days.

### Where hens roost:

1. The hen house is arranged in a 3x2 grid – 3 spaces N-S, 2 spaces E-W (clue 6).
2. Mildred and Sally are in two opposite corners (1). Mildred is on the east side (7), and Sally can't be on a northern corner (2), so Mildred is in the NE spot and Sally is in the SW spot.
3. There is an empty spot in the SE spot (9).
4. Since Emmy is directly to the west of Martha, Emmy is in the middle west spot and Martha is in the middle east spot (4).
5. Henrietta is one or two spots north of Sally. Since Emmy is directly north of Sally, Henrietta is in the NW corner (2).

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| Henrietta | Mildred |
| Emmy      | Martha  |
| Sally     | [empty] |

### Who laid on which day:

1. The farmer was gone for five days – Monday through Friday (clue 8).
2. Clues 1, 3, 4, 5, and 10:

|           | Mon        | Tues       | Wed       | Thurs      | Fri        |
|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|
| Henrietta | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> |           | <u>No</u>  | <u>Yes</u> |
| Emmy      | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> |           | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> |
| Sally     | <u>No</u>  | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u>  |
| Mildred   |            |            |           | <u>Yes</u> |            |
| Martha    | <u>No</u>  |            |           |            |            |

3. Since Mildred and Martha lay on opposite days (8), Mildred laid on Monday. Mildred only laid two eggs (1), and we now know those are on Monday and Thursday. Thus, Martha laid on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday:

|                  | Mon        | Tues       | Wed        | Thurs     | Fri        |
|------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| <b>Henrietta</b> | Yes        | Yes        |            | No        | Yes        |
| <b>Emmy</b>      | Yes        | Yes        |            | Yes       | Yes        |
| <b>Sally</b>     | No         | Yes        | No         | Yes       | No         |
| <b>Mildred</b>   | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u>  | <u>No</u>  | Yes       | <u>No</u>  |
| <b>Martha</b>    | No         | <u>Yes</u> | <u>Yes</u> | <u>No</u> | <u>Yes</u> |

4. All of the hens were inconsistent layers (intro), so Emmy didn't lay on Wednesday. But at least two eggs were laid each day (11), so Henrietta did lay on Wednesday.

|                  | Mon | Tues | Wed        | Thurs | Fri |
|------------------|-----|------|------------|-------|-----|
| <b>Henrietta</b> | Yes | Yes  | <u>Yes</u> | No    | Yes |
| <b>Emmy</b>      | Yes | Yes  | <u>No</u>  | Yes   | Yes |
| <b>Sally</b>     | No  | Yes  | No         | Yes   | No  |
| <b>Mildred</b>   | Yes | No   | No         | Yes   | No  |
| <b>Martha</b>    | No  | Yes  | Yes        | No    | Yes |

**Putting it all together:**

The grid of where the hens roost is a braille template. Each day as a different letter, and the eggs laid on that day are raised dots:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| O | O |
| O |   |
|   |   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| O |   |
| O | O |
| O |   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| O |   |
|   | O |
|   |   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
|   | O |
| O |   |
| O |   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| O |   |
| O | O |
|   |   |

The solution is FRESH.