

MARANS BODY DEPTH
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Let's turn our attention for Abdominal Capacity in our birds today for a few minutes. Just what is Abdominal Capacity you ask? Abdominal capacity is the distance between the two pubic bones (width) and between the pubic bones and the tip of the keel (depth).

It's important because birds with deeper wider bodies have more room for internal organs to function efficiently. Birds with smaller abdominal capacity has the same number and amount of internal organs as does larger capacity birds there just crammed in to a smaller area. Smaller capacity birds simply can't convert feed to meat and eggs as efficiently as large capacity birds can.

I've attached two random photos I found on the Internet of Wheaten Marans females. The first one has nice body capacity while the second one, well not so much. The difference is even more glaring when we look at photos of chicken skeletons. The first skeletal photos shows good capacity while the second one has much smaller capacity.

You can evaluate your own birds using your fingers. How many fingers can you fit between the pubic bones (the two small pointed bones just above the vent)? Also see how many fingers fit between the pubic bones and the tip of the keel bone (breast bones). More fingers equals more body capacity.



SMALL/POOR BODY DEPTH





PROPER/GOOD BODY DEPTH

