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# A Bird In The Hand: Chicken Recipes For Every Day And Every Mood



## Synopsis

2016 James Beard Award Winner *Chicken* takes center stage in Diana Henry's new collection of recipes for every day and every mood. Chicken is one of the most popular foods we love to cook and eat: comforting, quick, celebratory and casual. Plundering the globe, there is no shortage of brilliant ways to cook it, whether you need a quick supper on the table after work, something for a lazy summer barbecue or a feast to nourish family and friends. From quick Vietnamese lemon grass and chilli chicken thighs and a smoky chicken salad with roast peppers and almonds, through to a complete feast with pomegranate, barley and feta stuffed roast chicken with Georgian aubergines, there is no eating or entertaining occasion that isn't covered in this book. In *A Bird in the Hand*, Diana Henry offers a host of new, easy and not-so-very-well-known dishes, starring the bird we all love. Diana Henry was named 'Cookery Writer of the Year' by The Guild of Food Writers in 2009 and in 2007 for her column in the Sunday Telegraph's *Stella* magazine. She is a contributor to many magazines including *Red*, *House and Garden*, *Country Living* and *Waitrose Food Illustrated*. She is the author of a number of bestselling cookbooks, including: *Roast Figs Sugar Snow*; *The Gastropub Cookbook*, *Cook Simple*, *Salt Sugar Smoke*, *Food from Plenty* and *A Change of Appetite*. Diana lives in London with her partner and children.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 224 pages

Publisher: Mitchell Beazley (April 7, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 178472002X

ISBN-13: 978-1784720025

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 1.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,296 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Cookbooks, Food & Wine > Cooking by Ingredient > Poultry](#)

## Customer Reviews

This is a good cookbook that deserves the attention you would give a bestselling novel. Diana's writing is passionate and witty, which made it hard to put down. I'm someone who eats with my eyes when it comes to cookbooks, so was delighted to see that this one was rammed full of beautifully-styled, drool-worthy photos. I love that there's advice about choosing a good bird,

worth spending money on, one which will reward you with tender flesh, useful scraps, and bones for making stock. The book claims to have a recipe for every day and to suit everyone's mood. It includes over 100 recipes, though not every recipe has an accompanying photograph, those that do make you want to snatch up your purse and run to the butchers for a Bresse chicken. I'm also amazed by the terrific section on what to do with leftovers!

Finally a chicken cookbook that is more than just the same roasting technique except just changing the spice. Or just fried chicken 150 different ways. This is a book of chicken recipes that you can tell the creator took time to make sure each dish was worthy of carrying her name. This book is filled with recipes that could be served to dinner guests, yet not all are time-consuming and are suitable for family meals. While there are nice photos of the dishes in the book, not all recipes have photos. But with so many delicious recipes in this book it still deserves a 5-star rating.

Just made Diana Henry's recipe for Warm Salad of Chipotle-Grilled Chicken, Chorizo, and Quinoa with Lime Creme Fraiche. It was fabulous and this will stay on my summer rotation of main-course salads. Can't wait to try more recipes.

I absolutely love this book. I have cooked a few things out of it so far and they turned out wonderfully, and there's a lot more recipes I want to make. There are a lot of unusual recipes with seasoning combinations that I have not tried - it is NOT a compilation of same old, same old by any means. The author uses mostly dark meat chicken - thighs and drums - in her recipes, which are always a hit in my house. She mostly pan sears or roasts, using pan sauces, marinades, side dish suggestions to bring it all together. Most recipes are easily made within an hour (but you might need to get the chicken marinating the night before) so are easily executed on a busy weeknight.

Being introduced to Diana Henry via The Splendid Table podcast I had to pick up *A Bird In The Hand*. I've always been a chicken lover, and while I can do a similar style of chicken most nights of the week the family harkens for something more. *A Bird In The Hand* delivers on its promise of recipes for every day and every mood. Standouts so far are her *œturkish-spiced chicken with hot green relish* • and *œcilantro-seared chicken with hot-and-cold relish* •. I say standouts as the cilantro-seared chicken didn't make it to leftovers, and during the meal family was asking when we'd be having it again. Her approach to chilies and heat is very *œEnglish* • - deseed, deseed, deseed. I'm adapting the heat by leaving the seeds in. Ms. Henry's writing

is clear, informative and thoroughly engaging. Wit comes through in personal stories, and her clear, descriptive instructions make each dish a success. I'll disagree with her on roasting a bird (I find Barbara Kafka's advice sterling in that regard) - but so far everything else has been a winner. The sumptuous photography add to the pleasure of just thumbing through the pages planning the next meal. If you are a serious chicken lover, or even someone who only occasionally partakes - this book will change your mind. Chicken - it's what for supper!

Fantastic. I have made a number of recipes from this book, and they have all been fabulous. Comfort food to dinner party material. There are quite a variety of cuisines represented here, the only common thread being, well, chicken. So far, all I have made have been very popular with my family. This book stands next to several Ottolenghi books for the number of sticky tags sticking out of the book to mark recipes that I want to cook; a veritable forest in this book. Looks like lots of fun cooking (and eating!) ahead. Highly recommended.

Diana Henry has created a wonderful book for chicken. Every recipe represents the versatility of this wonderful bird. She literally travels the world with her uses of spice, citrus, cream, wine and other condiments that can be added to chicken. This is a "complete" chicken cookbook without being huge and unwieldy. Ms Henry also has a good section on roasting that will help the novice cook understand the variations that you see in cooking. But the bottom line is to buy the best chicken that you can find and know your oven. I would recommend this cookbook if you like great variety easily at hand which covers chicken in all of its flavors worldwide. Almost every recipe is matched with a full page picture so that you can see what the final presentation should look like. Page 170 is my favorite because she discusses "a nice bit of thigh" which I have to agree is the best part of the chicken. The recipes are clearly written and can be used by the slightly experienced cook or by an expert. All of the ingredients are fairly common and should be easy to find in a well stocked store with international merchandise.

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