



COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations for Children and Teens

Updated May 20, 2022

Learn about [CDC's new COVID-19 booster guidance for people ages 5 years and older](#).

What You Need to Know

- CDC recommends **everyone ages 5 years and older** get vaccinated against COVID-19.
- Everyone ages 12 years and older should also get a COVID-19 [booster shot](#).

Authorized for	Pfizer-BioNTech	Moderna	J&J/Janssen
4 years and under	No	No	No
5-11 years old	Yes	No	No
12-17 years old	Yes	No	No

Currently, the [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine](#) is the only vaccine authorized or approved for children ages 5 through 17 years. Children and teens need two doses of a Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. Everyone ages 12 years and older should also get a [booster shot](#).

Learn more about [staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccines](#), including when to get each shot.

For information on an additional primary dose for children ages 5 years and older who have a weakened immune system, visit [COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately or Severely Immunocompromised People](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine Dosage Is Based on Age on the Day of Vaccination, Not on Weight

- 12- through 17-year-olds receive the same dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine as adults.
- 5- through 11-year-olds receive a smaller dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine that is appropriate for this younger age group.

The Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for children ages 5 through 11 years has the same active ingredients as the vaccine given to people ages 12 years and older. However, the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for teens and adults **cannot** be used for children ages 5 through 11 years.

Children and Teens Who Have Already Had COVID-19 Should Still Get Vaccinated

Emerging evidence indicates that people can get added protection by getting vaccinated after having been infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. So even if a child has had COVID-19, they should still get vaccinated. Read the science about [immunity from COVID-19 infection and vaccination](#).

COVID–19 Vaccines and Other Vaccines Can Be Given at the Same Visit

Children and teens may get a COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines, including a flu vaccine, at the same time. If multiple vaccines are administered at a single visit, each injection will be given in a different injection site, [according to recommendations](#) by age.

Related Pages

- › [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine Overview and Safety](#)
- › [Safety of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- › [Understanding mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- › [COVID-19 Vaccine Safety in Children and Teens](#)

Last Updated May 20, 2022