



COVID-19

COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

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Getting Your COVID-19 Booster



Boosters are an important part of protecting yourself from getting seriously ill or dying from COVID-19. They are recommended for most people. Use this tool to determine when or if you (or your child) can get one or more COVID-19 boosters.

[Get Started >](#)

This tool is intended to help you make decisions about getting COVID-19 vaccinations. It should not be used to diagnose or treat COVID-19.

What You Need to Know

- COVID-19 vaccine boosters can further enhance or restore protection that might have decreased over time after your primary series vaccination.
- People are protected best from severe COVID-19 illness when they [stay up to date](#) with their COVID-19 vaccines, which includes getting all recommended boosters when eligible.
- There are different [COVID-19 vaccine recommendations for people who are moderately or severely immunocompromised](#).
- It is never too late to get the added protection offered by a COVID-19 booster. [Find a vaccine provider](#).

Choosing Your COVID-19 Booster

Three COVID-19 vaccines are used in the United States to prevent COVID-19. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna (COVID-19 mRNA vaccines) are preferred. You may get Johnson & Johnson's Janssen COVID-19 vaccine [in some situations](#).

Who Can Get a Booster

Recommended
1 Booster

Recommended
2 Boosters

- Everyone ages 5 years and older should get 1 booster after completing their [COVID-19 vaccine primary series](#).

Learn when you should get your 1st booster below.

- Adults ages 50 years and older
- People ages 12 years and older who are [moderately or severely immunocompromised](#)

Learn when you should get your 2nd booster below.

Adults ages 18 years or older

Pfizer-BioNTech

1st Booster:

CDC recommends a booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for: ^[1]

- Most people, at least 5 months after the final dose in the primary series
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, at least 3 months after the final dose in the primary series

2nd Booster:

CDC recommends a 2nd booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine **at least 4 months after the 1st booster for:**

- Adults ages 50 years and older
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

Up to Date: Immediately after getting all boosters recommended for you ^[2]

Moderna

1st Booster:

CDC recommends a booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for: ^[1]

- Most people, at least 5 months after the final dose in the primary series
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, at least 3 months after the final dose in the primary series

2nd Booster:

CDC recommends a 2nd booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine **at least 4 months after the 1st booster for:**

- Adults ages 50 years and older
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

Up to Date: Immediately after getting all boosters recommended for you ^[2]

1st Booster:

CDC recommends a booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for: ^[1]

- Most people, at least 2 months after the primary dose of J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, at least 2 months after the additional dose of Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine

2nd Booster:

CDC recommends a 2nd booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine **at least 4 months after the 1st booster for:**

- Adults ages 50 years and older
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

Up to Date: Immediately after getting all boosters recommended for you ^[2]

People ages 18 through 49 years who got a J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for both their primary dose and booster can choose to get a 2nd booster of either Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after their 1st booster. The 2nd booster is not required to be considered up to date for people ages 18 through 49 years who got a J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine for both their primary dose and 1st booster.

Children and teens ages 12–17 years

1st Booster:

CDC recommends a booster of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for: ^[1]

- Most children and teens, at least 5 months after the final dose in the primary series
- Children and teens who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, at least 3 months after the final dose in the primary series

2nd Booster:

- CDC recommends a 2nd booster of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months after the 1st booster for children and teens who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

Up to Date: Immediately after getting all boosters recommended for you ^[2]

Children ages 5–11 years

1st Booster:

CDC recommends a booster of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for:

- Most children, at least 5 months after the final dose in the primary series
- Children who are moderately or severely immunocompromised, at least 3 months after the final dose in the primary series

Up to Date: Immediately after getting 1st booster.

2nd Booster:

CDC does not recommend 2nd boosters for anyone in this age group at this time

¹ Although mRNA vaccines are preferred for the 1st booster, J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine [may be considered in some situations](#).

² You are also considered up to date if:

- You have completed your primary series but are not yet eligible for a booster
- You have received 1 booster but are not recommended to get a 2nd booster
- You have received 1 booster but are not yet eligible for a 2nd booster

Stay up to date by getting recommended boosters when you are eligible.

Scheduling Your Boosters

It is never too late to get the added protection offered by COVID-19 boosters. If you need help scheduling a booster, contact the location that set up your previous appointment. If you need to get a booster in a location different from where you received your previous vaccination, there are several ways you can [find a vaccine provider](#).

Find a COVID-19 vaccine or booster: Search [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find locations near you.

Related Pages

- › [COVID-19 Vaccine Safety and Monitoring](#)
- › [Understanding How COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)
- › [Ensuring COVID-19 Vaccines Work](#)
- › [Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 Vaccination](#)
- › [COVID-19 Vaccines for Moderately to Severely Immunocompromised People](#)
- › [People Vaccinated Outside the United States](#)



For Healthcare and Public Health

Considerations for Use of a COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Dose

