COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters

Updated July 20, 2022

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

Who Can Get a Booster

Recommended

1 Booster

- Everyone ages 5 years and older should get 1 booster after completing their COVID-19 vaccine primary series, if eligible.

Learn when you should get your 1st booster below.

Recommended

2 Boosters

- Adults ages 50 years and older
- Some people ages 12 years and older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised

Learn when you should get your 2nd booster below.

Find Out When You Can Get Your 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.

Find Out When to Get a Booster ›

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.

Adults ages 18 years and older

Novavax is not authorized for use as a booster dose at this time.

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]

Johnson & Johnson's Janssen ⌃

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

Pfizer-BioNTech ⌃

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]

Moderna ⌄

Boosters are not recommended at this time for any children or teens who have completed the Moderna COVID-19 primary series.

Children ages 11 years and under

Pfizer-BioNTech ⌄

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

6 MONTHS–4 YEARS

Boosters are not recommended for anyone in this age group at this time.

Moderna ⌄

Boosters are not recommended at this time for any children or teens who have completed the Moderna COVID-19 primary series.

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1 For the 1st booster, an mRNA vaccine is recommended; however, 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.

To find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you: Search vaccines.gov, text your ZIP code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233.

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

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