EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES
About COVID-19 Vaccines

COVID-19 vaccines available in the United States are effective at protecting people from getting seriously ill, being hospitalized, and dying. As with other diseases, you are protected best from COVID-19 when you stay up to date with the recommended vaccines.


When Are You Up To Date?

You are up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines when you have received all doses in the primary series and all boosters recommended for you, when eligible. Vaccine recommendations are based on your age, the vaccine you first received, and time since last dose. People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have different recommendations. If you have completed your primary series, but are not yet eligible for a booster, you are also considered up to date.
Children and teens ages 6 months to 17 years

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Novavax

Adults ages 18 years & older

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Novavax

Johnson & Johnson only recommended to those who had a reaction after another mRNA vaccine.
# Pfizer-BioNTech

## Ages: 6 month-4 years

| 1st Dose Primary Series | 2nd Dose Primary Series 3-8 weeks after first dose | 3rd Dose Primary Series At least 8 weeks after second dose |

## Ages: 5-17 years

| 1st Dose Primary Series | 2nd Dose Primary Series 3-8 weeks after first dose | 3rd Dose Booster At least 5 months after 2nd dose |

## Ages: 18-49 years

| 1st Dose Primary Series | 2nd Dose Primary Series 3-8 weeks after first dose | 3rd Dose Booster At least 5 months after 2nd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna |

## Ages: 50 years and older

| 1st Dose Primary Series | 2nd Dose Primary Series 3-8 weeks after first dose | 3rd Dose Booster At least 5 months after 2nd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna | 4th Dose Booster At least 4 months after 3rd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna |
Moderna

Ages: 6 month-17 years
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Primary Series 4-8 weeks after first dose

Ages: 18-49 years
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Primary Series 4-8 weeks after first dose
- 3rd Dose Booster At least 5 months after 2nd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna

Ages: 50 years and older
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Primary Series 3-8 weeks after first dose
- 3rd Dose Booster At least 5 months after 2nd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna
- 4th Dose Booster At least 4 months after 3rd dose - can be Pfizer or Moderna
Novavax

Ages: 12-17 years
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Primary Series 3 weeks after first dose

Ages: 18 years and older
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Primary Series 3 weeks after first dose

J&J/Janssen

Ages: 18-49 years
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Booster 2 months after first dose - can be Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

Ages: 50 years and older
- 1st Dose Primary Series
- 2nd Dose Booster 2 months after first dose - can be Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
- 3rd Dose Booster 4 months after second dose - can be Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
Timing For Your Second Dose

Talk to your healthcare or vaccine provider about the timing for the 2nd dose in your primary series.

- People ages 6 months through 64 years, and especially males ages 12 through 39 years, may consider getting the 2nd primary dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) 8 weeks after the 1st dose.
  - A longer time between the 1st and 2nd primary doses may increase how much protection the vaccines offer, and further minimize the rare risk of myocarditis and pericarditis.

- Anyone wanting protection due to high levels of community transmission, people ages 65 years and older, or people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 should get the second dose of:
  - Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine 3 weeks (or 21 days) after the first dose.
  - Moderna COVID-19 vaccine 4 weeks (or 28 days) after the first dose.
  - Novavax COVID-19 vaccine 3 weeks (or 21 days) after the first dose.
Mixing COVID-19 Vaccine Products

**Primary series:**
CDC does not recommend mixing products for your primary series doses. If you received Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Novavax COVID-19 for the first dose of your primary series, you should get the same product for all following primary series doses.

**Boosters:**
People ages 18 years and older may get a different product for a booster than they got for their primary series as long as it's Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or in some cases J&J/Janssen. Children and teens ages 5 through 17 years who got a Pfizer-BioNTech primary series must also get Pfizer-BioNTech for a booster. Novavax is not authorized for use as a booster dose at this time.

Vaccination Outside the United States

Specific recommendations for people vaccinated outside of the United States depend on whether:
- The vaccine(s) received are accepted in the United States
- The primary series was completed and, if eligible, a booster dose was received

These recommendations only apply to people who are not moderately or severely immunocompromised.
References

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/stay-up-to-date.html