



Stay Up to Date with COVID-19 Vaccines Including Boosters

Updated Oct. 14, 2022

Recommendations for Novavax booster doses were recently updated. [Read more.](#)

What You Need to Know

- Updated (bivalent) boosters became available **September 2, 2022**.
- CDC recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines for their age group:
 - Children and teens ages 6 months–17 years
 - Adults ages 18 years and older
- Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.
- If you recently had COVID-19, you **may** consider [delaying your next vaccine dose \(primary dose or booster\)](#) by 3 months from when your symptoms started or, if you had no symptoms, when you first received a positive test.
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- COVID-19 vaccine and booster recommendations may be updated as CDC continues to monitor the latest COVID-19 data.



Updated Boosters Are Recommended for Some People

CDC recommends that people ages 5 years and older receive one updated (bivalent) booster if it has been at least 2 months since their last COVID-19 vaccine dose, whether that was:

- Their final primary series dose, or
- An original (monovalent) booster

People who have gotten more than one original (monovalent) booster are also recommended to get an updated (bivalent) booster.

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.

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Novavax
- Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J/Janssen) (However, CDC recommends that the J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine only be [considered in certain situations](#), due to safety concerns.)

Updated (Bivalent) Boosters

The updated (bivalent) boosters are called “bivalent” because they protect against **both** the original virus that causes COVID-19 **and** the Omicron variant BA.4 and BA.5.

Previous boosters are called “monovalent” because they were designed to protect against the original virus that causes COVID-19. They also provide some protection against Omicron, but not as much as the updated (bivalent) boosters.

The virus that causes COVID-19 has changed over time. The different versions of the virus that have developed over time are called variants. Learn more about [variants of the COVID-19 virus](#).

Two COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers, Pfizer and Moderna, have developed updated (bivalent) COVID-19 boosters.

When Are You Up to Date?

You are **up to date** with your COVID-19 vaccines if you have completed a COVID-19 vaccine primary series and received the most recent booster dose recommended for you by CDC.

COVID-19 vaccine recommendations are based on three things:

1. Your age
2. The vaccine you first received, and
3. The length of time since your last dose

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have [different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines](#).

You are still up to date if you receive all COVID-19 vaccine doses recommended for you and then become ill with COVID-19. You do not need to be immediately revaccinated or receive an additional booster.

 **For Healthcare Workers:** Learn more about [COVID-19 vaccine schedules](#)



Getting Vaccines If You Had or Currently Have COVID-19

If you recently had COVID-19, you **may** consider delaying your next vaccine dose (whether a primary dose or booster) by 3 months from when your symptoms started or, if you had no symptoms, when you first received a positive test.

Reinfection is less likely in the weeks to months after infection. However, certain factors, such as personal risk of severe disease, or risk of disease in a loved one or close contact, local **COVID-19 Community Level**, and the most common **COVID-19 variant** currently causing illness, could be reasons to get a vaccine sooner rather than later.

Children and teens ages 6 months–17 years

COVID-19 vaccine dosage is based on age on the day of vaccination, not on size or weight. Children get a smaller dose of COVID-19 vaccine than teens and adults based on their age group.

Pfizer-BioNTech

AGE GROUP

6 MONTHS–4 YEARS

1st Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES
3–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES
At least 8 weeks after 2nd dose

Up to Date: 2 weeks after 3rd dose, since a booster is not recommended for this age group at this time
More details: [Staying up to date](#)

AGE GROUP

5–11 YEARS

1st Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES
3–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
At least 2 months after 2nd dose
or last booster, children age 5
years can only get a Pfizer-
BioNTech booster, and children
ages 6–11 years can get a Pfizer-
BioNTech or Moderna booster.

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you
More details: [Staying up to date](#)

AGE GROUP

12–17 YEARS

1st Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
PRIMARY SERIES
3–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
At least 2 months after 2nd dose
or last booster

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

[Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Overview](#)

Moderna

AGE GROUP

6 MONTHS–5 YEARS

1st Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES
4–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
Children 5 years of age can get a
Pfizer-BioNTech booster at least
2 months after their 2nd dose.
(Children 6 months to 4 years
are not recommended for a
booster.)

Up to Date: Children 6 months to 4 years of age are up to date two weeks after completing the 2nd dose of their primary series. Children 5 years of age who received a Moderna primary series are up to date immediately after they have received the most recent booster recommended for them.

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

AGE GROUP

6–17 YEARS

1st Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES
4–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
At least 2 months after 2nd
primary series dose

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

Moderna Vaccine Overview

Novavax



AGE GROUP

12-17 YEARS

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

1st Dose

Novavax

PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose

Novavax

PRIMARY SERIES

3-8 weeks after 1st dose

More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose

Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER

At least 2 months after 2nd primary series dose

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

Novavax Vaccine Overview

Adults ages 18 years and older

Pfizer-BioNTech



AGE GROUP

18 YEARS AND OLDER

1st Dose

Pfizer-BioNTech

PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose

Pfizer-BioNTech

PRIMARY SERIES

3-8 weeks after 1st dose

More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose

Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER

At least 2 months after 2nd primary series dose or last booster

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

Pfizer-BioNTech Vaccine Overview

Moderna

AGE GROUP

18 YEARS AND OLDER

1st Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Moderna
PRIMARY SERIES
4–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
At least 2 months after 2nd primary series dose or last booster

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

[Moderna Vaccine Overview](#)

Novavax

AGE GROUP

18 YEARS AND OLDER

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

1st Dose
Novavax
PRIMARY SERIES

2nd Dose
Novavax
PRIMARY SERIES
3–8 weeks after 1st dose
More details: [Getting your 2nd dose](#)

3rd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna
UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER
At least 2 months after 2nd primary series dose

Up to Date: Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you

More details: [Staying up to date](#)

[Novavax Vaccine Overview](#)

Johnson & Johnson's Janssen

AGE GROUP

18 YEARS AND OLDER

1st Dose
J&J/Janssen

2nd Dose
Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

J&J/JANSSEN

PRIMARY SERIES

SECOND DOSE/TWO BOOSTERS

UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTER

At least 2 months after 1st dose
or last booster**Up to Date:** Immediately after you have received the most recent booster recommended for you**More details:** [Staying up to date](#)**J&J/Janssen Vaccine Overview****Getting your 2nd 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 Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, or Novavax 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.

Staying up to date: If you have completed your primary series, but are not yet eligible for a booster, you are also considered up to date.

Mixing COVID-19 Vaccine Products

Do Not Mix Primary Series

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

Mixing Boosters

The following information applies to boosters for people ages 5 and older. Children under age 5 years are not recommended to receive a booster at this time.

[Children age 5 years old](#)



Children age 5 years old are only currently recommended to receive the updated (bivalent) Pfizer-BioNTech booster, and they can get this booster whether they received the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna primary series.

Children age 5 years old can no longer get an original (monovalent) mRNA (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) booster.

[People ages 6 years and older](#)



People ages 6 years and older can get a different product for their updated (bivalent) booster than they received for their primary series or last booster. People ages 6 years and older can no longer get an original (monovalent) mRNA (Pfizer-

BioNTech or Moderna) booster.

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



Learn About Getting Your Vaccine

- Do you need to wait to get vaccinated after getting COVID-19 or getting treatment for COVID-19?
- How can you prepare for vaccination?
- What can you expect during and after your vaccination?

[Getting Your COVID-19 Vaccine](#)

Vaccination Received Outside the United States

Specific recommendations for people vaccinated outside the United States depend on whether:

- The vaccine(s) received are accepted in the United States as valid vaccinations
- The primary series was completed and, if eligible, a booster dose was received

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

[COVID-19 vaccines available abroad that are accepted in the United States as valid vaccinations](#)

Vaccines approved or authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) currently include:

- Pfizer-BioNTech
- Moderna
- Novavax
- Johnson & Johnson's Janssen

Vaccines listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO) currently include those that are listed above and the following:

- AstraZeneca/Oxford vaccine
- Sinopharm
- Sinovac
- COVAXIN
- Covovax
- CanSino

If You Receive a Vaccine That is Not in the U.S. Accepted List Above

- Wait at least 28 days after the last dose you received of that vaccine then start COVID-19 vaccination over with a COVID-19 vaccine that has been approved or authorized by the FDA.
- If the FDA has not approved or authorized a vaccine there may be limited data available or reviewed on the safety or effectiveness of the COVID-19 vaccine.

How to Complete a Primary Series

- Receive 1 dose of a single-dose accepted COVID-19 vaccine
- Receive 2 doses of a 2-dose accepted COVID-19 vaccine

CDC does not recommend mixing different COVID-19 vaccines for the primary series, but CDC is aware that mixing COVID-19 vaccines for the primary series is increasingly common in many countries outside the United States. Therefore, people who receive a mixed primary series, meaning two different COVID-19 vaccines, have completed the series.

If You Started But Didn't Complete a Primary Series

- You will need to complete the primary series. If you got 1 dose of Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech, it is best to get the same vaccine again to complete the primary series.

After Completing a Primary Series

If you are not yet eligible for a booster, you are considered up to date. Otherwise, stay up to date by getting the booster recommended for you as soon as a booster is recommended for you based on your age and the appropriate time has passed since completing the primary series.

Proof of vaccination card in the United States



The white CDC [COVID-19 vaccination cards](#) are issued only to people vaccinated in the United States. CDC recommends that people vaccinated outside of the United States keep their documentation of being vaccinated in another country as proof of vaccination. CDC does not keep vaccination records nor determine how vaccination records are used. People can update their records with vaccines they received while outside of the United States by:

- Contacting the [immunization information system \(IIS\)](#) in their state.
- Contacting their healthcare provider or local or state immunization program through their [state's health department](#).

[Learn more about COVID-19 vaccination cards.](#)

For Healthcare Workers: Learn more about the recommendations for [people vaccinated outside of the United States](#).



For Healthcare and Public Health

[Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the United States: Interim Clinical Considerations](#)

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