



---

**Help protect your child.**

At-a-glance guide to childhood  
vaccine-preventable diseases

---

## Why vaccines matter.

Thanks to vaccines, many diseases that harm children are now mostly gone. But there are still outbreaks of diseases that vaccines may have prevented. These are serious diseases that can lead to death.

That's why the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends vaccination. Their vaccine schedule helps protect your child against 15 diseases. Follow the schedule and go to all doctor visits. Make sure your child gets their vaccines on time, every time.

### Don't skip any vaccines.

There are still disease outbreaks in the United States. Babies and children are at higher risk. Without vaccines, outbreaks could get even worse. Just a few cases of a disease could become thousands.

Follow the full CDC vaccine schedule on page 4.



### Help protect your child.

Make sure your child gets the vaccines they need, when they need them. This is one of the most important things you can do to help keep your child healthy.

#### Remember:

- Get all recommended vaccine doses.
- Timing is important. Babies should start getting most vaccines at 2 months old. This helps protect them when they are young and at more risk of infection.
- Vaccinate on time. Every time.

### Children are at risk. Don't skip vaccines.

Learn about 15 diseases that vaccines help prevent. See pages 5-6.

## Answers to common questions.

**Q.** Do vaccines cause autism?

**A.** No. A review of 20 major studies found no evidence that vaccines cause autism.

**Q.** Are vaccines more dangerous than the diseases they protect against?

**A.** No. Vaccines are tested in large studies and go through a long approval process. The diseases they help protect against can be deadly.

**Q.** Are multiple vaccines too much for a child to receive in one day?

**A.** No. Studies show that getting several vaccines at the same time does not cause any chronic health problems. See the CDC vaccine schedule. Follow the full schedule to help keep your child healthy.



**Q.** Do vaccines have side effects?

**A.** Yes. The most common are pain, redness, or soreness around the injection site. Serious side effects may occur. This includes allergic reactions, extreme crying, high fever, or seizures due to fever. Talk to your doctor to learn more.

Help protect your child.  
Don't skip a doctor visit or a vaccine.

Follow the full CDC vaccine schedule on the next page. ▶

# 2023 Recommended Immunizations for Children from Birth Through 6 Years Old<sup>S</sup>

VACCINE	Birth	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19-23 MONTHS	2-3 YEARS	4-6 YEARS
<b>HepB</b> Hepatitis B	HepB	HepB			HepB						
<b>RV*</b> Rotavirus			RV	RV	RV*						
<b>DTaP</b> Diphtheria, Pertussis, & Tetanus			DTaP	DTaP	DTaP		DTaP				DTaP
<b>Hib*</b> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b			Hib	Hib	Hib*	Hib					
<b>PCV13, PCV15</b> Pneumococcal disease			PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV					
<b>IPV</b> Polio		IPV	IPV	IPV							IPV
<b>COVID-19**</b> Coronavirus disease 2019					COVID-19**						
<b>Flu†</b> Influenza					Flu (One or Two Doses Yearly) <sup>†</sup>						
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, & Rubella						MMR					MMR
<b>Varicella</b> Chickenpox						Varicella					Varicella
<b>HepA†</b> Hepatitis A						HepA†		HepA†			

## FOOTNOTES

**RV\*** **Hib\***  
Administering a third dose at age 6 months depends on the brand of Hib or rotavirus vaccine used for previous dose.

**COVID-19\*\*** Number of doses recommended depends on your child's age and type of COVID-19 vaccine used.

**Flu†** Two doses given at least 4 weeks apart are recommended for children age 6 months through 8 years of age who are getting an influenza (flu) vaccine for the first time and for some other children in this age group.

**HepA†** Two doses of Hep A vaccine are needed for lasting protection. The 2 doses should be given between age 12 and 23 months. Both doses should be separated by at least 6 months. Children 2 years and older who have not received 2 doses of Hep A should complete the series.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. If your child misses a shot recommended for their age, talk to your child's doctor as soon as possible to see when the missed shot can be given.

2. If your child has any medical conditions that put them at risk for infection (e.g., sickle cell, HIV infection, cochlear implants) or is traveling outside the United States, talk to your child's doctor about additional vaccines that they may need.

**Talk with your child's doctor if you have questions about any shot recommended for your child.**

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

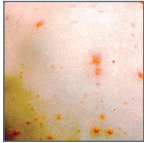
**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Call toll-free: **1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)**  
Or visit: [cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents)

This content was adapted by Pfizer from the CDC's 2023 childhood immunization schedule.

<sup>S</sup>This is a resource intended for parents or caregivers; there is a more detailed healthcare professional version of the schedule available on the CDC website.

## Vaccinate on time. Every time.

Don't leave your child vulnerable to these vaccine-preventable diseases.



### CHICKENPOX

---

Chickenpox is a virus that spreads through the air or through contact. It causes an itchy rash all over the body. It may also cause fever and tiredness. If it is a serious case, it can lead to pneumonia, inflammation of the brain, and death.



### DIPHThERIA

---

Diphtheria is caused by bacteria that spreads through sneezing or coughing. It can cause a sore throat, fever, or trouble breathing. If it is a serious case, it may lead to heart failure, paralysis, and death.



### HIB (*Haemophilus influenzae* TYPE B)

---

Hib is caused by bacteria that spreads through the air by coughing or sneezing. It can cause ear infections and throat swelling. If it is a serious case, it may lead to meningitis, pneumonia, brain damage, and death.



### HEPATITIS A

---

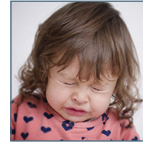
Hepatitis A is a virus usually found in stool. It spreads by personal contact or through contaminated food or water. It may cause liver disease, which can cause stomach pain, vomiting, and fever. If it is a serious case, it may lead to liver failure that leads to death.



### HEPATITIS B

---

Hepatitis B is a virus that spreads through contact with blood or body fluids. It can also pass from mother to baby at birth. It causes liver disease and yellow skin or eyes (known as jaundice). It may lead to chronic liver disease, liver scarring, liver cancer, and death.



### INFLUENZA (FLU)

---

The flu is a virus. It spreads from coughing, sneezing, or touching surfaces that have the virus on them. It can cause fever, sore throat, cough, chills, and muscle pain. If it is a serious case, it may lead to pneumonia, inflammation of the heart, and death.



### MEASLES

---

Measles is a virus that easily spreads through coughing, sneezing, and breathing. It can cause rash, fever, runny nose, and cough. If it is a serious case, it may lead to pneumonia, brain damage, and death.



## MUMPS

---

Mumps is a virus that spreads through the air. It can cause fever, headache, and swollen glands. This leads to swelling of the cheeks and jaws. If it is a serious case, it may lead to meningitis, inflammation of the brain, deafness, and death.



## PERTUSSIS (WHOOPING COUGH)

---

Pertussis is caused by bacteria that spreads through the air. It causes severe coughing spells that affect eating, drinking, and breathing. If it is a serious case, it may lead to pneumonia, brain infection, and death.



## POLIO

---

Polio is a virus. It spreads easily through sneezing, coughing or contact with stool. Most people with polio have no symptoms. If it is a serious case, it may cause weakness in the arms or legs, paralysis, and death.



## PNEUMOCOCCAL DISEASE

---

Pneumococcal disease is caused by bacteria. It spreads through coughing or contact with body fluids. It can cause cough, fever, chest pain, ear infections, and difficulty breathing. If it is a serious case, it may lead to bacterial meningitis and death.



## ROTAVIRUS

---

Rotavirus spreads through contact with stool. It causes diarrhea, vomiting, and fever. If it is a serious case, it may lead to dehydration and death.



## RUBELLA (GERMAN MEASLES)

---

Rubella is a virus that spreads through the air. It can also be passed to babies during pregnancy. It causes swollen glands, fever, and rash. It is a mild disease in children, but can be severe for babies. They may be born deaf or blind, with heart problems or a small brain.



## TETANUS (LOCKJAW)

---

Tetanus is caused by bacteria in cuts or wounds. It causes headache and spasms in the jaw muscles. If it is a serious case, it may lead to trouble swallowing, severe muscle cramps, and death.



## COVID-19 (SARS-COV-2)

---

SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19. The virus can be spread through talking, sneezing, breathing and direct contact. It may cause fever, muscle aches, sore throat, cough, and loss of taste or smell. In severe cases, it can lead to pneumonia, respiratory failure, inflammation of the heart and potentially death. COVID-19 can lead to long term complications like multi-system inflammatory syndrome and post-COVID syndrome.

Be sure to follow the full CDC vaccine schedule.

## More resources for you. Log on today.

- **Personalized online vaccination schedule**  
[www.vaccinecalendar.com](http://www.vaccinecalendar.com)

Below are websites that provide additional information about childhood vaccinations.

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\***  
[www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents)
- **American Academy of Pediatrics\***  
[www.healthychildren.org](http://www.healthychildren.org)
- **American Academy of Family Physicians\***  
[www.familydoctor.org](http://www.familydoctor.org)

\*These websites are neither owned nor controlled by Pfizer. Pfizer does not endorse and is not responsible for the content or services of these sites.

