

Puppy and Dog Vaccination Recommendations

Puppies should begin their vaccinations at 6 to 8 weeks of age.

They should receive a total of three distemper/parvo combination vaccinations three to four weeks apart. IF your puppy is a “black and brown breed” (Rottweiler, Doberman, German Shepherd, etc.) or a mix containing any of these breeds, they should receive a total of four distemper/parvo combination vaccinations.

If your puppy is older than 8 weeks and less than one year when starting vaccinations, they still should be given a total of three distemper/parvo vaccinations (or four vaccinations if they are a “black and brown breed” mentioned above.) These still should be given three to four weeks apart. After this initial set of three or four, a yearly Distemper/Parvo vaccination booster is recommended.

It is a good idea to prevent your puppy’s contact with other dogs (especially unvaccinated dogs) until your puppy has had the complete set of three or four Distemper/Parvo vaccinations.

If your dog is one year old or older when starting vaccinations (especially if you do not know the vaccine history), a set of two distemper/parvo vaccinations given three to four weeks apart is recommended. After this initial set of two, a yearly distemper/parvo vaccination booster is recommended.

Booster series vaccinations should be given on schedule. The time interval is critical so that your dog will receive maximum protection from the booster series.

A Bordatella (kennel cough) vaccination is recommended if your dog is to be boarded or groomed, attend training class, go to dog day care or dog parks. This vaccine needs to be boosted every 6 months.

When your puppy or dog is 12 weeks or older, a Rabies vaccination can be given. The first Rabies vaccination your puppy or dog receives (regardless of age) is good for one year. After that, Rabies vaccinations are good for up to three years. Check with your local animal control for licensing information for your area.

A yearly through check-up by your veterinarian is recommended to insure your dog’s continued good health.