When to Get a COVID-19 Vaccine or Booster:
For Most People
(Not People with Very Weak Immune Systems)

AT-A-GLANCE

People who are 6 months to 4 years old

Moderna

Primary → (In 4-8 weeks) → Primary → (In at least 2 months) → Bivalent Moderna booster

OR

Pfizer-BioNTech

Primary → (In 3-8 weeks) → Primary → (In at least 8 weeks) → Bivalent Pfizer primary

People who are 5 years old

Moderna

Primary → (In 4-8 weeks) → Primary → (In at least 2 months) → Bivalent mRNA booster

OR

Pfizer-BioNTech

Primary → (In 3-8 weeks) → Primary → (In at least 8 weeks) → Bivalent Pfizer booster*

People who are 6 through 11 years old

Moderna or Pfizer-BioNTech

Primary → (In 3-8 weeks (Pfizer) or In 4-8 weeks (Moderna)) → Primary → (In at least 2 months) → Bivalent mRNA booster*

People who are 12 years old and older

Moderna, Novavax, or Pfizer-BioNTech

Primary → (In 3-8 weeks (Novavax, Pfizer) or in 4-8 weeks (Moderna)) → Primary → (In at least 2 months) → Bivalent mRNA booster*†

People 18 years old and older who took the J&J vaccine for their first shot‡

Primary → (In at least 2 months) → Bivalent mRNA booster*†

To read more about the clinical details about giving these vaccines, see:

- Caring for COVID-19 Patients
- COVID-19 Vaccine Doses and Cap Colors
- Use of COVID-19 Vaccines in the U.S.

*People who have received a monovalent booster shot should get a bivalent booster shot 2 months after their most recent monovalent booster shot.

†People 18 years old and older can choose to get a monovalent Novavax booster dose if they meet three criteria: 1) they've completed a primary series using any COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago, 2) they've not received any previous booster dose(s), and 3) they are unable or unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine.

‡The J&J vaccine should only be used under special conditions. See here: https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/interim-considerations-us-appendix.html#appendix-a

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