

Covid-19 Vaccine Schedule for Adults

Are you up to date on **Covid-19 vaccines** and **boosters**? Here's what you need to know.



Covid-19 vaccines are **safe and effective**. They help prevent you from getting infected and lower your risk of serious illness if you do.

Who should get vaccinated?

All adults in the United States are eligible for Covid-19 vaccines. Adults are considered up to date after a primary series and the most recent recommended booster dose.

What's a primary series?

A primary series is the first set of doses needed to be vaccinated against a disease.

What are boosters?

Booster shots are an additional dose or doses of a vaccine given after the protection from the original shot(s) begins to decrease.

Earlier booster shots are called **“monovalent.”** They were designed to protect against the original virus that causes Covid-19.

The updated boosters are called **“bivalent”** because they protect against the original virus that causes Covid-19 and the omicron variants BA.4 and BA.5.

Q: Can I mix and match mRNA vaccines?

A: The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends completing a primary series of a two-dose vaccine (or three doses for certain immunocompromised patients) with the same product whenever possible.

For boosters, the FDA allows mix-and-match vaccines. That means you can get a different brand of mRNA Covid vaccine for your booster than you got for your first two shots. Getting a different brand may even make your immunity stronger.

After completing the series and booster(s), keep checking with your healthcare provider or the CDC to find out if/when you need to get boosted again.

What vaccines are available for adults? When should you get each shot?

These vaccines are free and available to everyone, regardless of insurance coverage or immigration status.

Pfizer-BioNTech mRNA vaccine and bivalent booster

Primary Series

2 doses separated by 3 to 8 weeks

Booster

At least 8 weeks after the final dose of your primary series or your last booster

Moderna mRNA vaccine and bivalent booster

Primary series

2 doses separated by 4 to 8 weeks

Booster

At least 8 weeks after the final dose of your primary series or your last booster

Novavax protein subunit vaccine

Primary series

2 doses separated by 3 to 8 weeks

Booster

A monovalent Covid-19 booster is available for people ages 18 years and older if they have completed the primary series vaccination at least 6 months prior but have not previously received a Covid-19 booster — and if they are unable or unwilling to receive an mRNA vaccine.

Johnson & Johnson's (J&J) Janssen viral vector vaccine

Primary Series

1 dose

(only recommended for some people, including those allergic to mRNA or protein subunit vaccines)

Booster

As of September 2022, a Janssen booster is not approved. Adults should get the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna booster at least 8 weeks after 1st primary series dose.

People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised should speak to their healthcare provider about what extra doses of vaccine they may need.

This information is current as of November 29, 2022. Recommendations change often. For the latest guidelines, visit the [CDC website](#).

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healthywomen