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## Help protect your child.

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

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## 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 16 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 16 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.

# 2024 Recommended Immunizations for Children from Birth Through 6 Years Old\*

VACCINE OR PREVENTIVE ANTIBODY	BIRTH	1 MONTH	2 MONTHS	4 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	7 MONTHS	8 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	15 MONTHS	18 MONTHS	19 MONTHS	20–23 MONTHS	2–3 YEARS	4–6 YEARS
<b>RSV antibody</b> Respiratory Syncytial Virus	If mother has not received an RSV maternal vaccine during pregnancy						Depends on child's health status							
<b>HepB</b> Hepatitis B	Dose 1	Dose 2		Dose 3										
<b>RV</b> Rotavirus		Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3										
<b>DTaP</b> Diphtheria, Pertussis, & Tetanus		Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3				Dose 4						Dose 5
<b>Hib</b> Haemophilus influenzae type b		Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3				Dose 4						
<b>PCV</b> Pneumococcal		Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3				Dose 4						
<b>IPV</b> Polio		Dose 1	Dose 2	Dose 3									Dose 4	
<b>COVID-19</b> Coronavirus disease 2019	At least 1 dose of updated (2023–2024 formula) COVID-19 vaccine													
<b>Flu</b> Influenza	Every year: two doses for some children													
<b>MMR</b> Measles, Mumps, & Rubella								Dose 1						Dose 2
<b>Varicella</b> Chickenpox								Dose 1						Dose 2
<b>HepA</b> Hepatitis A								2 doses separated by 6 months						

## KEY

-  ALL children should be immunized at this age.
-  SOME children should get this dose of vaccine or preventive antibody at this age.

## Talk to your child's healthcare provider for more guidance if:

- Your child has any medical condition that puts them at higher risk for infection.
- Your child is traveling outside the United States.
- Your child misses a vaccine recommended for their age.

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

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

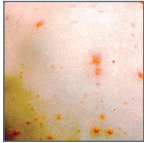
Call toll-free: **1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)**  
Or visit: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents)

This content was adapted by Pfizer from the CDC's 2024 childhood immunization schedule.

\*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

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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

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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)

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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.



### RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)

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RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, is a virus that affects the lungs. It spreads from coughing, sneezing, and direct contact. It causes cold-like symptoms. In severe cases, it can cause bronchiolitis, an inflammation of the small airways in the lung, and pneumonia.



### HEPATITIS A

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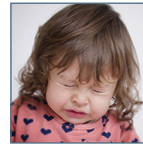
Hepatitis A is a virus usually found in stool. It spreads by personal contact or through contaminated food or water. It may cause liver disease, which can cause stomach pain, vomiting, and fever. If it is a serious case, it may lead to liver failure that leads to death.



### HEPATITIS B

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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)

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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

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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

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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)

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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

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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

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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

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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)

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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)

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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)

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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)

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