

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A "BOOSTER DOSE" AND AN "ADDITIONAL DOSE"?

BOOSTER DOSE:

A *booster dose* is an extra dose for those whose immune response may have weakened over time. This booster can help "reinvigorate" the protection initially provided.

Why should I get a booster dose? A booster shot of the COVID-19 vaccine helps boost protection over time.

Who should get a booster?

The use of a single booster dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine may be administered after the completion of the primary series to individuals:

- People age 65 and older
- People ages 18-64 years old at high risk of severe COVID-19
- People ages 18-64 years old with frequent institutional or occupational exposure to COVID-19
 - Residents of long-term care facilities
 - First responders (healthcare workers, firefighters, police, congregate care staff)
 - Education staff (teachers, support staff, daycare workers)
 - Food and agriculture workers
 - Manufacturing workers
 - Corrections workers
 - U.S. Postal Service workers
 - Public transit workers
 - Grocery store workers

When should I get a booster?

For Pfizer and Moderna, the booster should be given at least 6 months after completion of the two-dose vaccine series. For Johnson and Johnson (Janssen), the booster may be administered at least two months after initial dose.

Can you "Mix and Match" vaccine brands for the booster dose?

Yes, the FDA has authorized the use of available COVID-19 vaccines as heterologous (mix and matched) booster dose in eligible individuals following completion of primary vaccination with a different available COVID-19 Vaccine.

ADDITIONAL DOSE:

An *additional dose* is an extra dose of the vaccine for those that are severely immunocompromised, who may have not had a strong enough immune response to the first two doses of Pfizer or Moderna. This is given at least 28 days after the initial two doses.

Who should get it? Moderately to severely immunocompromised people who previously received two doses of Moderna or Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. This includes people who have:

- Been receiving active cancer treatment for tumors or cancers of the blood
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

Which vaccine do I get? People who qualify are recommended to get an additional dose of the same Moderna or Pfizer vaccine they received for their first two doses. If a person can't get the same vaccine (Moderna or Pfizer) they received for their first two doses, they can get the other. (*Johnson & Johnson vaccine has not been approved for an additional dose at this time*)

When should I get it? People who qualify should get an additional dose at least 28 days after their second dose. The additional dose is the same formulation as the first two doses.

Why should I get an additional dose? A third dose of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine helps build more protection for people who may not have received enough protection from the first two doses.

RESOURCES

For more information, resources, and patient handouts (translated languages coming soon!), click [here](#).

CAN YOU GIVE FLU SHOT AND BOOSTER/ADDITIONAL DOSE AT THE SAME TIME?

COVID-19 vaccines may be administered without regard to timing of other vaccines. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccine and other vaccines on the same day.

If multiple vaccines are administered at a single visit, administer each injection in a different injection site. For adolescents and adults, the deltoid muscle can be used for more than one intramuscular injection administered at different sites in the muscle.

- [Best practices](#) for multiple injections include:
 - Label each syringe with the name and the dosage (amount) of the vaccine, lot number, the initials of the preparer, and the exact beyond-use time, if applicable.
 - Separate injection sites by 1 inch or more, if possible.
 - **Administer the COVID-19 vaccines and vaccines that may be more likely to cause a local reaction in different limbs, if possible.**

SOCIAL MEDIA

What's the Difference?

Booster

Who? Certain at-risk populations whose immune response may have weakened over time who completed a 2-dose vaccine series will be eligible for the booster.

What? Eligible COVID-19 vaccine recipients should get a booster shot

When? At least six months after their first two doses of Pfizer or Moderna & at least two months after Johnson and Johnson (Janssen) vaccine.

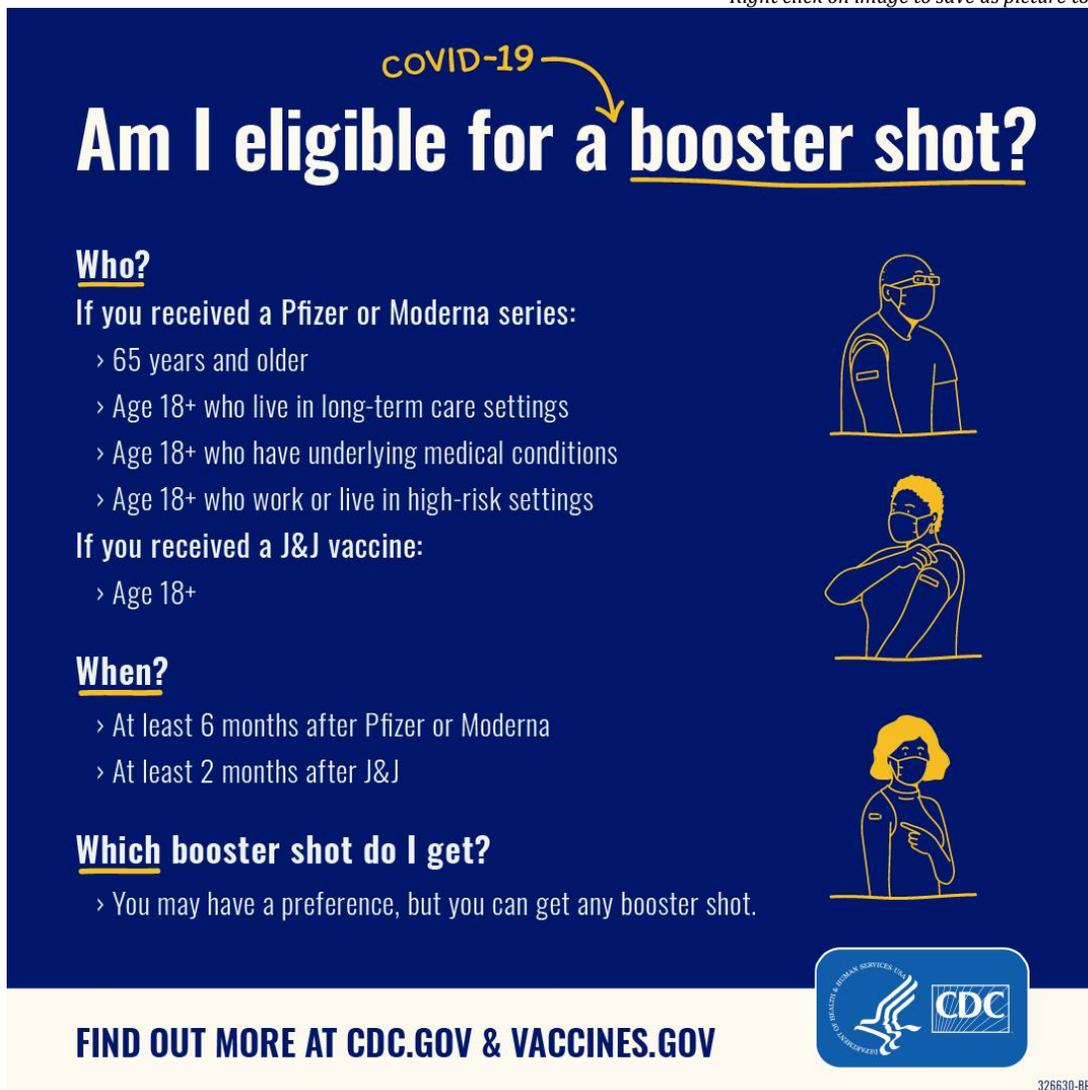
Additional Dose

Who? People who are moderately to severely immunocompromised

What? A third dose of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine is recommended

When? The third dose should be given at least 28 days after the initial two-dose vaccine series

Right click on image to save as picture to post to social media



COVID-19

Am I eligible for a booster shot?

Who?

If you received a Pfizer or Moderna series:

- > 65 years and older
- > Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- > Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- > Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

If you received a J&J vaccine:

- > Age 18+

When?

- > At least 6 months after Pfizer or Moderna
- > At least 2 months after J&J

Which booster shot do I get?

- > You may have a preference, but you can get any booster shot.

FIND OUT MORE AT CDC.GOV & VACCINES.GOV



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SOURCES:

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/clinical-considerations/covid-19-vaccines-us.html>

<https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/booster-shots-and-additional-doses/>