



Spay/Neuter Clinic
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For dogs, the following vaccinations may be advised, depending on the circumstances in your area. They are often combined into a single injection containing several components. Since several combinations are marketed, it is possible to tailor the vaccination schedule for puppies and adult dogs to match their needs.

Rabies: In all states, rabies vaccinations are required by law. The first rabies vaccination is good for one year. In many states subsequent vaccinations are good for three years. In other states, they are only valid for one year by law. Please check with your veterinarian to determine the legal requirements in your state. Vaccinating your pet for rabies may literally save its life for two reasons. Rabies is a threat in many areas and it is a horrible disease. In addition, an unvaccinated pet who bites a human being, even by accident, is subject to long and expensive quarantine periods or even death for the purpose of testing for rabies infection.

Distemper: Distemper vaccination is important for all puppies. This disease is still present in most areas and it is still hard to treat successfully. Even when a puppy is nursed through the acute phase of the disease there can be long term health problems. The most common of these is a tendency to develop seizures.

Parainfluenza: Parainfluenza must be an inexpensive virus to include in vaccines. It is in almost all the combination vaccines even though it is probably only a minor contributor to the problem of tracheobronchitis (kennel cough) in dogs. Vaccine reactions to this virus seem rare.

Parvovirus: Parvovirus is probably the most common viral illness of dogs at the present time. It is much more common in puppies than it is in adult dogs. It can be very hard to successfully vaccinate a puppy for this disease because the antibody protection the puppy acquires from its mother can interfere with vaccination. It is important to vaccinate puppies every three to four weeks for this virus starting at six weeks of age and continuing until they are at least 16 weeks of age and preferably 20 weeks of age. It is possible that this vaccine confers lifelong immunity, but most veterinarians continue to recommend yearly vaccination for it. It seems prudent to at least get the vaccination at one year of age. Since it is combined with other vaccines it is often easier to give it yearly with them.

Coronavirus: Coronavirus may cause viral diarrhea and death from parvovirus may be more likely if the infections occur concurrently. On the other hand, this virus causes minimal damage to the intestines and may not cause clinical illness on its own.

Bordetella: Is a disease called kennel cough. Kennel cough is a contagious, non-lethal disease of dogs. In my experience, young dogs (less than two years old) are most often affected. The disease causes a tickle in the throat that leads to coughing. The coughing may persist for as long as three weeks.

Vaccine Schedule

DHPP: Given to puppies at 8, 12 and 16 weeks. Annually thereafter.

Rabies: Given at 12-16 weeks of age. Annually thereafter.

Leptospirosis: Give at 12 and 16 weeks, then annually thereafter. Vaccine should be given to high risk dogs such as hunting or field trial dogs 1 month prior to hunting season

Bordetella: Intranasal or injectable vaccine given to dogs at risk 7-14 days prior to exposure; Duration of immunity 4-6 months.

Corona: It is generally recognized that dogs older than 11-12 weeks are not susceptible to this disease. There is sometimes a higher reaction rate when given with the leptospirosis vaccine.

**Vaccine protocols may vary at local veterinarian offices. Please follow up with you regular veterinarian for all of your vaccine boosters and yearly physicals. Your regular veterinarian will determine the best yearly protocol for your pet. Also ask about yearly heartworm and flea preventative.*