




Puppy Vet Care & Vaccination Basics

Bringing home a new puppy is so exciting — and one of the most important parts of keeping them healthy is getting them started on the right vet care and vaccine schedule from the very beginning!   Here's a quick guide to help you stay on track:

 17 Core Puppy Vaccines- These are essential for protecting your pup from serious (and sometimes life-threatening) diseases:

✓ 6–8 weeks

- Distemper, Parvo, Parainfluenza (DHPP)
- Bordetella (kennel cough – optional but recommended)

✓ 9–12 weeks


- DHPP booster
- Leptospirosis (optional but recommended in certain areas)

✓ 12–16 weeks

- Final DHPP booster
- Rabies (required by law in most places)


Note: Some vets may adjust this slightly based on local risks or your pup's health.

Other Important Vet Care


 Deworming – Puppies are often born with worms and should be dewormed several times in their first months.

 Flea & Tick Prevention – Start as recommended by your vet (usually around 8 weeks).

 Heartworm Prevention – Monthly preventatives should begin around 12–16 weeks.

 Your First Vet Visit- Your puppy should see the vet within a few days of coming home. This first visit will include:

- ✓ A full health check
- ✓ Fecal test for parasites
- ✓ Vaccine boosters (depending on age)
- ✓ A care plan for the months ahead

 Pro Tip: Keep your puppy away from high-traffic dog areas (parks, stores, etc.) until they've had all their vaccines — their immune system is still developing!

♥ Keeping up with your puppy's vet care in the first few months sets them up for a healthy, happy life. Got questions about vaccines or first visits? Drop them below or ask your vet! 