

Puppy Vaccination Schedule

Core and lifestyle vaccines from 6 weeks to 16 weeks

6–8 weeks · DHPP #1

Distemper, Hepatitis (adenovirus), Parainfluenza, Parvovirus — the core combo. Most breeders/shelters give the first dose before the puppy goes home. Confirm date and product name in writing.

10–12 weeks · DHPP #2

Booster of the same combo. Lyme and leptospirosis (lifestyle vaccines) can start here if your area has high tick density or standing-water exposure.

14–16 weeks · DHPP #3 + rabies

Final puppy DHPP booster. Rabies is required by US state law in nearly every state at this age window. AAHA's 2022 canine vaccination guidelines treat rabies as a non-optional core.

Lifestyle vaccines · case-by-case

Bordetella for boarding/daycare. Lyme for tick country. Lepto in 4-way for hiking and rural exposure. Canine influenza in dense urban dog populations or before kennel stays. Discuss with your vet — these are not one-size-fits-all.

Annual or 3-year boosters

DHPP titers or boosters at 1 year, then every 3 years per AAHA. Rabies follows state law (typically 1 year then 3-year if licensed product). Bordetella is annual or every 6 months for high-exposure dogs.

Socialization vs. risk window

AVSAB position: the socialization window (3–14 weeks) closes before the full vaccine series ends. Carry the puppy or use stroller-safe spaces to socialize without skipping immunity. The fear-period risk of under-socialization is real and lasting.