

CORE VACCINES

Vaccine	Minimum Duration of Immunity ¹		Legal Requirement	AAHA Guidelines	What Your Dog Really Needs
	Challenge ²	Serology ³			
Rabies	3 years	7 years	In most US states, 1 year after initial vaccination, then every 3 years. Check your state's requirement's here .	1 year vaccine at 12 weeks or older; 3 year vaccine after one year and again every 3 years after that or according to legal requirement's in each state.	Legal requirement unless your dog qualifies for exemption (see state by state exemption rules here). Dog would likely be protected for life by the schedule below for other core vaccines.
Parvovirus (CPV-2)	7 years	7 years	None. Vaccination is at your discretion.	Puppies: Every 3-4 weeks between 6 and 16 weeks; then 1 year booster, then every 3 years or more. Adults: 1 vaccination after 16 weeks, then every 3 years or more.	Puppies: 1 vaccination at 16 weeks Titer 3 weeks after With positive titer, dog is likely protected for life Adults: 1 vaccination as an adult likely provides lifetime protection. Titer if needed.
Distemper (CDV)	7 years	15 years			
Adenovirus (CAV-2)	7 years	9 years			
¹ Studies by Ronald D Schultz PhD ² Challenge means immunity is proven by exposure to the disease ³ Serology means immunity is proven by high levels of protective antibody					

NON-CORE VACCINES

	How Long It Lasts	AAHA Guidelines	Issues With The Vaccine
Bordetella (vaccinated)	Duration of immunity is 9 months (by challenge) to 1 year (by serology).	Puppies: 8 weeks and 12 weeks Adults: two doses 2-4 weeks apart. Then annually – or more, for “high risk animals”	Most of 40 bordetella agents are not covered by vaccine; dogs shed vaccine and spread disease. Dr Schultz says “Kennel cough is not a vaccinatable disease”
Bordetella (intranasal)	Single dose, then annually or more.		
Lyme Disease	Study shows 1 year by challenge.	Only for use in dogs with known risk of exposure. Puppies: minimum 12 weeks old then 2-4 weeks later Adults: two doses 2-4 weeks apart. Then annually, or at beginning of tick season.	Ineffective and high risk vaccine. Long term side effects may include Lyme-like symptoms, rheumatoid arthritis and kidney disease. Lyme vaccine for humans was withdrawn due to high adverse effect risk!
Leptospirosis 4-way	According to Dr Schultz, lepto vaccine offers very short term immunity (as little as 3 months) so may be needed 4 times a year to provide protection.	Only use based on known geographic incidence of lepto and exposure risk of the dog. Puppies: minimum 12 weeks old with another 2-4 weeks later. Adults: two doses, 2-4 weeks apart Then annually for dogs “with a reasonable risk of exposure”	Covers only 4 of over 200 types of lepto. Highest rate of adverse reactions of any vaccine. Efficacy shown as less than 70%. Side effects are often severe and some are fatal. Vaccination does not protect against lepto in the urine which means vaccinated dogs can spread lepto to humans.