

# DOG VACCINES

## WHAT IS NEEDED?



Vaccinating your puppy or dog might seem ruff but it is the best kind of preventative care. Vaccines protect your canine companion from a host of illnesses, some of which are contagious, dangerous, or even fatal.

### Core Vaccines

These are the vaccines every dog needs, no matter if they're an inside couch potato or an active outdoorsy pup:

- **DHPP (or DA2PPC):** This combo vaccine protects against Distemper, Hepatitis (Adenovirus), Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus.
- **Rabies:** Not only is this vaccine life-saving, it's also legally required in most places. No ifs, ands, or barks about it.

Puppies usually start their vaccine series at 6–8 weeks old, with boosters every 3–4 weeks until about 16 weeks. Adult dogs get boosters annually or every three years, depending on the vaccine.

### Optional Vaccines

- **Bordetella:** Protects against kennel cough —ideal for dogs in daycare, grooming, or boarding. Takes 48 hours to be effective and may need a booster every 6–12 months.
- **Leptospirosis:** A bacterial infection spread through water or soil. If your pup is a puddle-splasher, this one's for them.
- **Lyme Disease:** Recommended for dogs in tick-heavy areas. Your vet can help you determine the risk in your area
- **Canine Influenza:** For social butterflies who love dog parks, playdates, or travel.

### The Cost of Keeping That Tail Wagging

The first-year cost of puppy vaccinations ranges from \$100 to \$350, depending on your vet and location. Annual boosters for adult dogs typically cost \$80 to \$250. Some clinics or veterinarians offer bundled packages to save you a few bones. You can also find low cost & often free vaccine clinics in your area. The protection is worth every penny- after all, a vaccinated pup is a happy, healthy, zoomie-ready companion!