LIFESTYLES OF THE
Healthy and Protected

Not every dog needs every vaccine! Find out if your pup is a social butterfly, an explorer, or a tick magnet (or all three!), then talk with your veterinarian to make your dog’s vaccine plan as unique as he is.

EVERY DOG

What they do: Dog stuff, like laying on couches, going for hikes, hanging out in the yard, judging your driving from the backseat of the car, and so on.

Where they go: Anywhere, from silk pillows in skyscrapers to mountain tops and everywhere in between.

What vaccines they need: The distemper, adenovirus, and parvovirus vaccine (often called the distemper combination), and the rabies vaccine.

Why they need them: These are considered “CORE” vaccines and are recommended for every dog. Since rabies is a deadly disease that can be transferred to humans, vaccination is required by law. The other viruses are also very contagious and can be deadly. Antibodies provide protection against these diseases if your dog has been previously vaccinated. Talk to your veterinarian about testing your dog’s antibody levels.

SOCIAL BUTTERFLIES

What they do: Spend time around other dogs.

Where they go: Dog parks, doggie daycare, dog parties, dog shows, boarding kennels, grooming parlors.

What vaccines they need: All commercially available strains for canine influenza (dog flu), Bordetella bronchiseptica, and parainfluenza virus.

Why they need them: Dog flu, Bordetella, parainfluenza, and sometimes adenovirus type 2 viruses are easily transmitted. Once infected, dogs can develop sneezing, coughing, and even pneumonia. Think of how many doggie birthday parties he would miss if he got sick!

Talk to your veterinarian about your dog’s vaccination needs.
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EXPLORERS

What they do: Work hard and play hard. They love the outdoors and may swim in or drink from freshwater lakes or streams. Explorers also stroll the city streets and parks and drink from rain puddles or swim in the park pond or lake.

Where they go: Wherever the wild things (wildlife, livestock, rodents) are: forests, parks, neighborhoods, farmland, bodies of freshwater, and city streets.

What vaccines they need: Leptospira (against four subtypes: canicola,icterohaemorrhagiae, grippotyphosa, and pomona)—often called the "Lepto" vaccine for short.

Why they need them: Leptospira bacteria can live for months in soil and water contaminated by the urine of livestock, rodents, wild animals, and other dogs. If the bacteria comes into contact with a dog, the dog can develop kidney and/or liver failure, lung disease, and bleeding disorders.

TICK MAGNETS

What they do: Get bitten by ticks in areas where Lyme disease occurs.

Where they go: Yards, forests, parks, and fields where deer, rodents, and ticks live.

What vaccines they need: Borrelia burgdorferi (Lyme) vaccine.

Why they need them: Vaccination against the bacteria that causes Lyme disease can help prevent infection. Joint pain, fever, and fatal kidney failure can be consequences of this disease. They also need flea- and tick-protection products as an additional layer of protection.

Talk to your veterinarian about your dog’s vaccination needs.