



New Puppy Information & Vaccination Guide

Overview


Congratulations on your new puppy! Early veterinary care is essential to protect your puppy from contagious diseases and to establish lifelong wellness. The first months are critical for building immunity, preventing parasites, and beginning a healthy schedule for vaccinations, nutrition, and preventive care.

Puppy Vaccination Schedule

Age	Vaccine(s)	Purpose / Notes
6–8 Weeks	DHPP (1st dose), Bordetella (1st dose)	DHPP protects against Distemper, Hepatitis (CAV-2), Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus. Bordetella helps prevent kennel cough.
10–12 Weeks	DHPP (2nd dose), Leptospirosis (1st dose), Canine Influenza (1st dose)	Boosts core protection and begins coverage for Leptospirosis and Canine Influenza.
14–16 Weeks	DHPP (3rd dose), Leptospirosis (2nd dose), Rabies (1st dose), Bordetella booster (if needed)	Completes the puppy vaccine series and provides required Rabies protection.
1 Year	DHPP & Rabies boosters, Leptospirosis and Influenza boosters	Maintains immunity; continues annual protection against core and lifestyle diseases.
Annually	Bordetella and Influenza boosters (if needed)	Continued protection, especially for social or boarding dogs.

About the Core Vaccines

- **DHPP:** A combination vaccine protecting against Distemper, Hepatitis (CAV-2), Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus — all highly contagious and potentially fatal diseases.
- **Leptospirosis:** A bacterial infection spread through contaminated water or soil that can damage the liver and kidneys; also transmissible to humans.
- **Bordetella (Kennel Cough):** A respiratory infection common in dogs exposed to other dogs (boarding, grooming, dog parks). Helps prevent coughing and secondary infections.
- **Rabies:** A fatal viral disease affecting the nervous system; vaccination is required by law and protects both pets and humans.
- **Canine Influenza:** A contagious respiratory virus that causes coughing, nasal discharge, and fever; recommended for social or boarding dogs.

 After your puppy completes their vaccination series, schedule annual wellness visits to maintain boosters and monitor your pet's ongoing health. Milford Village Veterinary Clinic is here to guide your puppy's care from their first visit through adulthood.