



COVID-19 Vaccines: Pfizer and Moderna

TIMING OF SECOND DOSE



WHEN SHOULD I GET MY SECOND DOSE OF PFIZER OR MODERNA?

If you receive a Pfizer or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, you will need 2 doses to complete the primary series. The timing of your 2nd dose depends on your individual situation.



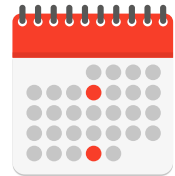
If you are 12-64 years of age:

- **You may benefit from getting your second dose 8 weeks after your first dose.** This is because having a longer time between first and second doses appears to improve the effectiveness of the vaccines. Plus, it also lowers the already rare risk of myocarditis. Younger males (age 12-39) have the highest risk of getting myocarditis.
- **If you need to be fully vaccinated sooner,** you should get your second dose earlier: at least 3 weeks after your 1st dose of Pfizer and at least 4 weeks after your 1st dose of Moderna. Examples of this are if there is high community spread where you live, work, or travel; if you are at higher risk for severe disease, or if you need it for travel, work, or school.
- Talk with your doctor if you are not sure about which timing is best for your situation.

If you are any of the following:

- Moderately or severely immunocompromised
- Age 65 years and older
- Age 5 through 11 years

You should get your second dose earlier - at least 3 weeks after your 1st dose of Pfizer and at least 4 weeks after your 1st dose of Moderna



For more information, see [How to Get Vaccinated](#) webpage.