

~ Puppy Vaccination Schedule ~

(Always check with your vet)

8 – 10 Weeks of Age

Physical Exam – Included with every vaccine and heartworm check at our hospital, regardless of age. We will check your puppy out from nose to tail for any abnormalities or potential future concerns.

1st DHPP – Initially a series of 3 vaccines, which protect against the following diseases:

- *Distemper* — A **highly** contagious and **deadly** viral disease causing a variety of symptoms, from respiratory signs to neurologic disease. Thanks to vaccinations, this disease is rarely seen in this area!
- *Hepatitis* — Adenovirus type 1 and 2 cause hepatitis (liver disease) and respiratory infections respectively.
- *Parainfluenza* — Combination of bacteria and virus causing respiratory infections. **Very** contagious to other dogs.
 - *Parvovirus* — A **highly** contagious viral disease causing potentially fatal bloody diarrhea, vomiting or in rare instances cardiac disease. Puppies are the most susceptible to this **deadly** disease.

Fecal (stool) Exam - Please bring in a fresh stool sample so that we can check for intestinal parasites. Results are generally available the next day. Because many puppies have intestinal worms, your doctor may choose to use a routine deworming medication regardless of results of initial fecal exam.

Heartworm Prevention — Your puppy will receive their first dose of heartworm preventative at this age. Your Veterinarian will discuss what type of preventative is best for your dog. You will give them one dose once per month, every month, for life. We

will begin annual heartworm testing at the time of your puppy's spay/neuter or at your puppy's first birthday.

Flea and Tick Prevention – Start if appropriate.

Flea/Tick season is usually May-Nov.

12 – 14 Weeks of Age

Physical Exam – Things are starting to change now. Your puppy is probably teething and not as sleepy as it was. Have you starting brushing your puppy's teeth yet?

2nd DHPP

Rabies — The initial Rabies vaccine is approved for 1 year. The subsequent vaccines are approved for 3 years. Rabies is a viral disease of the nervous system. It is spread through saliva or blood (bite wounds) and is **Always Fatal**. This disease is also

Contagious to Humans, and is a **Vaccine Required By State Law For All Dogs**.

Fecal Exam and/or Dewormer

Heartworm Preventative – We usually only sell one pill at a time because your puppy is growing so fast and this medication is dosed in weight classes.

Flea Prevention – Also based on weight, so we usually sell one dose at a time. Next dose if appropriate.

16 – 20 Weeks of Age

Physical Exam – Is your puppy losing its front teeth? Is potty training going well?

3rd DHPP – This last booster is good for 1 year. Next year's vaccine will be good for 3 years!

Heartworm Preventative – Next dose... Has your puppy gained weight?

Flea Prevention – If appropriate

Fecal Exam and/or Dewormer

Physical Exam – Your dog probably has all of their adult teeth now! You may want to gradually switch to adult food so your puppy does not start to become overweight or develop orthopedic issues.

Heartworm Test – Your dog will have its first Heartworm Test today! We will draw a small amount of blood and the test will be run in our on-site lab. This test will be repeated once per year and your prescription for preventative will be renewed at that time.

Heartworm Preventative – Your dog is probably old enough so that you can purchase the entire year of Heartworm Preventative at this time. You may still purchase this monthly if you choose.

Flea Prevention – If appropriate.

- Don't forget to keep Flea Preventative on your dog each month during flea/tick season or when traveling to avoid the ticks!

Fecal Exam or Dewormer – Your doctor will decide if this last Fecal Exam or De-wormer is necessary. We ask that you bring a fresh stool sample in at least once per year to check for intestinal parasites.

Optional Vaccines

Bordetella – Also called Kennel Cough.

- This vaccine is required for any dog who:
 - Is Boarded
 - Is Groomed
 - Goes to the Bark Park
 - Goes to Puppy Classes
- The first vaccine is given Intra-nasally (in the nose, no needle!), Then is a regular injection every 6-12 months.
- Bordetella vaccine should be boosted 1-2 times per year based on frequency of the above events