

IMPORTANT Vaccination & Diseases

Although your newly adopted pet has received its initial vaccinations here at the Idaho Humane Society Shelter, it does not mean that the pet is fully vaccinated and/or protected from disease. As the new pet owner, it is your responsibility to follow through with any and all boosters so that your new pet will be fully protected. If you are unsure as to what vaccines your pet needs or have health related questions, we have comprised a checklist below to help you understand necessary care for your new pet.

Vaccination boosters can be done at our veterinary center located at 1300 South Bird Street. No appointment is needed, boosters for post adopt animals can be done as walk ins. **If you have adopted a dog under 6 months old, you can receive a free Rabies vaccination or Rabies booster at our veterinary center as well.** All other vaccinations and boosters will be charged appropriately.

DA2PP Series:

- The DA2PP vaccine includes: Distemper, Adenovirus, Parainfluenza and Parvovirus and is one of the core vaccines for dogs. The first 3 are viruses that make up part of the kennel cough complex. The last is Parvo, which is a virus that causes severe vomiting, diarrhea and can be deadly.
- Your new dog has received a DA2PP vaccine at the shelter. Depending on the age of your dog, they may need a booster.
- Dogs need their initial vaccine when they are between 6-8 weeks old. They should receive a booster every 4 weeks until they are 16 weeks old (8 wks, 12 wks, 16 wks).
- Puppies should not be taken to any public areas like parks, front yards, or on walks until they carefully vaccinated after receiving the whole series and are at least 16 weeks old.
- The first set of vaccines lasts for 1 year and subsequent booster vaccines are given every 3 years.

Rabies Vaccine:

- Rabies vaccines are required by law for all dogs in most counties. If you are not in the city limits, check with your city or county clerk for requirements in your jurisdiction.
- The earliest rabies vaccine can be given is 16 weeks old.
- The initial vaccine is effective for 1 year and subsequent vaccines are given every 3 years.

Bordetella Vaccine:

- This vaccine is either given as an injection or intranasal (in the nose). It is to protect dogs from the Bordetella bacteria, which is one of the components of kennel cough.
- The initial vaccine given to your pet at the shelter (plus 1 booster) is recognized as effective for 1 year. This vaccine is commonly required by boarding facilities and groomers.

Kennel Cough:

- Kennel cough is basically a cold. Signs include coughing, hacking, sneezing, and discharge from eyes and nose.
- It is a complex disease caused by many different bacteria and viruses. There are vaccines against only 4 of those. That's why dogs who are "fully vaccinated" can still get kennel cough.
- Most dogs that have kennel cough are treated with antibiotics to take care of the bacterial portion of the cold. After the antibiotic treatment is completed, dogs can still have some coughing and sneezing and this is the viral part of the cold, which can take up to a month to resolve.
- While a dog is showing signs of kennel cough, they are considered contagious to other dogs.

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Parvovirus:

- Parvo is caused by a virus that causes dogs to become very sick with vomiting and diarrhea, often times bloody. This can be deadly to puppies, which are very susceptible. Puppies should not be taken to any public areas like parks, front yards or on walks until they are fully vaccinated. Dogs are considered fully vaccinated after receiving the whole series and are at least 16 weeks old.
- The virus is everywhere in the environment and dogs get it from other dogs' infected feces.
- Parvo is prevented by fully vaccinating puppies and dogs. Puppies need to be vaccinated at 8wks, 12wks, and 16wks.

We encourage all new adopters to build a relationship with a local veterinarian for regular veterinary healthcare. A new pet should be considered a member of the family and will prosper in caring environment. With proper housing, food, veterinary maintenance and socialization your new pet can live a long life and bring much joy into your home.

Thank you for adopting from the Idaho Humane Society!

Our Mission: "To advocate for the welfare and responsible care of animals, protect them from neglect and cruelty, and to promote human awareness and compassion for all living creatures."