

Vaccination Schedule for Cats: Core and Non-core Vaccines

| Cat Vaccine | Initial Kitten Vaccination (at or under 16 weeks) | Initial Adult Cat Vaccination (over 16 weeks) | Booster Recommendation | Comments |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Rabies | Single dose as early as 8 weeks of age, depending on the product. Revaccinate 1 year later | 2 doses, 12 months apart | Required annually or every 3 years, depending on vaccine used. State regulations may determine the frequency and type of booster required. | <i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Rabies is 100% fatal to cats, with no treatment available. Prevention is key. |
| Feline Distemper (Panleukopenia) | As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age | 2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart | 1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years. | <i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Feline distemper is a severe contagious disease that most commonly strikes kittens and can cause death. |
| Feline Herpesvirus | As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age | 2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart | 1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years. | <i>Core cat vaccine.</i> Feline herpesvirus causes feline viral rhinotracheitis (FVR), a very contagious upper respiratory condition. |
| Calicivirus | As early as 6 weeks, then every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age | 2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart | 1 dose is given a year after the last dose of the initial series, then every 3 years. | <i>Core cat vaccine.</i> A very contagious upper respiratory condition that can cause joint pain, oral ulcerations, fever, and anorexia. |
| Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) | As early as 8 weeks, then 3-4 weeks later | 2 doses, 3-4 weeks apart | Every 2 years for cats at low risk; every year for those at higher risk | <i>Non-core cat vaccine.</i> Should test FeLV negative first. Transmitted via cat-to-cat contact. Can cause |

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| | | | | cancer, immunosuppressant |
| Bordetella | As early as 4 weeks | 2 doses,1 year apart | Annually | <i>Non-core cat vaccine.</i> A contagious upper respiratory condition. |