

# 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 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.