

Vaccinations for Dogs

Our pets offer us love, affection and friendship unconditionally; they are an important part of our lives and our families. Just like any other family member their health and well-being is no doubt imperative to you. To safeguard your pet from potentially serious and sometimes fatal diseases a Vet can recommend a tailored preventative healthcare program for every pet. Your pet's tailored program includes vaccinations.

Why vaccinate your pet?

Like they say 'prevention is better than a cure', and it is no different with the diseases that can affect our dogs and cats. Most of these diseases are viral and do not respond well to medication. Where treatments are available, they can be expensive and in some circumstances even prove unsuccessful. For this and other reasons we strongly recommend vaccinations.

When should you vaccinate your pet?

Generally puppies and kittens require an initial series of three vaccines followed by an annual booster to ensure ongoing protection from disease.

Your veterinary surgeon will review your pet's medical file, and in collaboration with you the pet owner, decide exactly which vaccine program is appropriate depending on the age and health of your canine or feline friend. Unvaccinated pets are at risk of contracting serious and fatal diseases. You can protect your dog or cat from contracting these diseases by maintaining the vaccination program recommended by your vet pet care team.

Vaccinating your Dog

Disease and your dog

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VACCINATING YOUR DOG - What do you need to protect your dog from?

Parvovirus

A viral gastroenteritis that is highly contagious and can survive for long periods in the environment after being passed in the faeces of infected dogs. It can be located on the hair and feet of dogs, on contaminated cages, shoes and even in your own backyard. Depression, loss of appetite, severe vomiting and diarrhoea containing blood are some of the symptoms a sufferer will experience. Death can occur very quickly and in some cases within 24 hours of commencement of symptoms, with treatment often not being effective. Very young puppies can pass away without showing any symptoms apart from looking unwell.

Distemper

A highly contagious disease that is contracted by dogs of all ages. Distemper produces symptoms such as conjunctivitis, nasal discharge, convulsive seizures and spinal cord damage. Many dogs die during the acute stages of infection, the few that recover are often left with permanent brain damage. Treatment is often ineffective.

Canine Kennel Cough

A complex disease caused by bacterium and is highly contagious through casual contact with other dogs. Affected dogs will have a hacking cough persisting for weeks. In puppies and senior dogs the disease can be very devastating.

Hepatitis

Nearly all dogs are exposed to this virus at some stage of their lives but fortunately only a few become ill. Recovered dogs become carriers, shedding the virus in urine and other secretions.

In puppies Hepatitis can cause sudden death, whilst adult dogs can experience weakness, fever, diarrhoea, loss of appetite and bleeding.

When does your dog need to be vaccinated?

Puppies

6-8 weeks First vaccination - Temporary

10-12 weeks Second vaccination

14-16 weeks Booster adult vaccination

Ten days after the 14-16 week vaccination you can take your puppy out in public areas.

Adult Dogs

Annual Booster adult vaccination every year.

Heartworm injection is also available annually or as a monthly tablet or pipit

If you have any further questions please ring or come in and see us for any help and advice.