

# UPDATED (BIVALENT) BOOSTERS: INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

- ✓ The updated (bivalent) boosters are called “bivalent” because they protect against both the original virus that causes COVID-19 and the Omicron variant BA.4 and BA.5.
- ✓ Previous boosters are called “monovalent” because they were designed to protect against the original virus that causes COVID-19. They also provide some protection against Omicron, but not as much as the updated (bivalent) boosters.
- ✓ The virus that causes COVID-19 has changed over time. The different versions of the virus that have developed over time are called variants. The updated booster became available September 22, 2022.
- ✓ Two COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers, Pfizer and Moderna, have developed updated (bivalent) COVID-19 boosters.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: CDC GUIDELINES FOR THE UPDATED BOOSTER

CDC recommends that people ages 5 years and older receive one updated (bivalent) booster if it has been at least 2 months since their last COVID-19 vaccine dose, whether that was:

- ✓ Their final primary series dose, or
- ✓ An original (monovalent) booster

People who have gotten more than one original (monovalent) booster are also recommended to get an updated (bivalent) booster.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE UPDATED BOOSTER

**CDC recommends everyone stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines for their age group:**

- ✓ Children and teens ages 6 months–17 years
- ✓ Adults ages 18 years and older
- ✓ Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.
- ✓ If you recently had COVID-19, you may consider delaying your next vaccine dose (primary dose or booster) by 3 months from when your symptoms started or, if you had no symptoms, when you first received a positive test.
- ✓ People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised have different recommendations for COVID-19 vaccines, [click here for more information](#).
- ✓ Getting a COVID-19 vaccine after you recover from COVID-19 infection provides added protection against COVID-19.
- ✓ COVID-19 vaccine and booster recommendations may be updated as CDC continues to monitor the latest COVID-19 data.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

