

# COVID-19 VACCINE INFORMATION



## Sources:

CDC, Mayo Clinic, the New York Times  
Updated March 8, 2021

### Q. When can I stop wearing a mask and go to birthday parties again?

A. Scientists and government officials are working hard to fight the COVID-19 disease that has made many people around the world really sick. One of the ways in which they are trying to do this is to vaccinate as many people as possible to help protect them from getting sick. You can help by learning about the COVID-19 vaccine and getting vaccinated when you can.



### Q. What is the COVID-19 vaccine?

A. The COVID-19 vaccine helps train your body to fight off a germ called the coronavirus in case you come in contact with it. You can think of the COVID-19 vaccine as being similar to the flu shot you get every year to protect you from the flu.

### Q. Should I get the COVID-19 vaccine?

A. Getting the vaccine can help protect you from getting potentially very sick! There is not currently a vaccine approved for you but if you are 12 years old or older, there will likely be a COVID-19 vaccine for you by summer 2021. In the meantime, you can talk to a trusted adult like your mom or your doctor to learn more as scientists work on getting a vaccine for people like you approved.

**Q. Will it hurt when I get the vaccine?**

**A.** It might feel like a pinch when you get the shot and hurt a little, but if you felt ok after getting your annual flu shot, you'll likely feel ok when you get the COVID-19 vaccine.



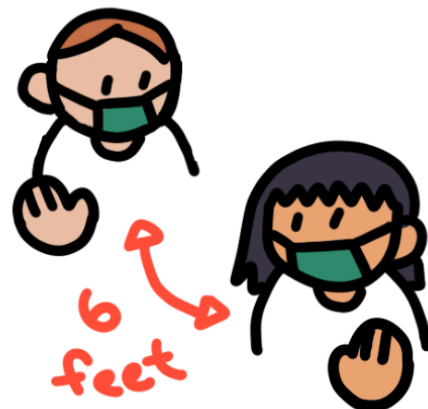
**Q. What are some of the side effects of the COVID-19 vaccine?**

**A.** The most common side effects include pain at the site where you got the vaccine, fatigue, headache, and mild fever. These side effects may last a few days, but they are also seen in many other common vaccines.



**Q. Can I stop wearing a mask and social distancing after I get the COVID-19 vaccine?**

**A.** The CDC recommends that you continue to wear a mask and avoid crowds while outside after you get the vaccine. New CDC guidelines, however, say that 2 weeks after you get vaccinated, you can visit other vaccinated people indoors without a mask.



**If you have questions about the vaccine, ask a trusted adult, like your parent, guardian, or doctor.**