**PROTOCOL FOR DOGS**

By [W. Jean Dodds, DVM](https://www.hemopet.org/author/drjeandoddspethealthresource/) on July 18, 2016



The following vaccine protocol is offered for those dogs where minimal vaccinations are advisable or desirable. The schedule is one I recommend and should not be interpreted to mean that other protocols recommended by a veterinarian would be less satisfactory. It’s a matter of professional judgment and choice.

**9 – 10 weeks of age**  
Distemper + Parvovirus, MLV  e.g. Merck Nobivac (Intervet Progard) Puppy DPV

**14 – 15 weeks of age**Distemper + Parvovirus, MLV

**18 weeks of age**Parvovirus only, MLV Note: New research states that last puppy parvovirus vaccine should be at 18 weeks old.

**20 weeks or older, if allowable by law**Rabies – give 3-4 weeks apart from other vaccines Mercury-free (thimerosol-free, TF)

**1 year old**Distemper + Parvovirus, MLV  
This is an optional booster or titer. If the client intends *not* to booster after this optional booster or intends *to* retest titers in another three years, this optional booster at puberty is wise.

**1 year old**Rabies – give 3-4 weeks apart from other vaccines 3-year product if allowable by law; mercury-free (TF)

Perform vaccine antibody titers for distemper and parvovirus every three years thereafter, or more often, if desired. Vaccinate for rabies virus according to the law, except where circumstances indicate that a written waiver needs to be obtained from the primary care veterinarian. In that case, a rabies antibody titer can also be performed to accompany the waiver request. Visit [The Rabies Challenge Fund](http://www.rabieschallengefund.org/) for more information.

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