



# Feline Vaccine Recommendations

*Based on the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP) Vaccination Guidelines*

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## ***Why vaccines matter***

Vaccines help protect cats from serious and potentially life-threatening diseases. Even indoor cats can be exposed through open doors, new pets, boarding, grooming, or contact with people who have been around other animals. Vaccination also supports public health, particularly for diseases like rabies that can affect people as well as pets.

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## ***Core vaccines - recommended for all cats:***

### ➤ **Distemper (FVRCP)**

This combination vaccine protects against Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (Herpesvirus), Calicivirus, and Panleukopenia. These viruses are highly contagious and can cause severe respiratory disease, immune suppression, or death, especially in kittens and unvaccinated cats.

### ➤ **Rabies**

Rabies is a fatal viral disease and a public health concern. Vaccination is required by law in many areas and is recommended for all cats, including indoor cats. Proof of vaccination may also be required for boarding, grooming, and travel.

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## **Lifestyle vaccines: *recommended for some cats:***

These vaccines are recommended based on your cat's lifestyle, environment, and exposure risk.

➤ **Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV)**

FeLV is a contagious viral disease among cats that can cause immune suppression, anemia, and cancer. It is spread through close contact with an infected cat such as grooming, sharing food bowls, or bite wounds.

**All kittens (< 1 year)** should receive an initial FeLV vaccine series.

Adult cats may benefit if they go outdoors, live with FeLV-positive cats, or have potential exposure to other cats.

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## **Typical vaccination schedules**

### **Kittens**

*Vaccines typically begin around **6–8 weeks of age** and are given every **3–4 weeks** until the kitten series is complete.*

### **Adult cats**

*After the initial kitten series, vaccines are boosted at appropriate intervals based on the vaccine type, your cat's age, lifestyle, and health status. Most vaccines are given yearly, while others provide longer-lasting protection.*

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## **Individualized care**

No two cats are exactly alike. Age, medical history, and lifestyle all matter when creating the right vaccine plan. At Good Life Veterinary Care, our goal is always to protect your cat while avoiding unnecessary treatments.

We would be happy to recommend a tailored vaccine plan for your cat!

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