Why should you get the vaccine?
All of the authorized or approved COVID-19 vaccines are effective at helping protect you from COVID-19, especially severe illness and death. COVID-19 vaccines also reduce the risk of people spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.

If you’ve already had COVID-19 do you still need to get a vaccine?
Yes, if you have recovered from COVID-19 you should still get vaccinated to reduce the risk of reinfection and help protect you from variants – like the highly contagious Delta. A recent study showed that unvaccinated people who have had COVID-19 are more than twice as likely to be reinfected with the virus compared with people who were fully vaccinated after recovering from COVID-19.

Who is eligible to get the vaccine?
In the United States, the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) authorized the use of three vaccines to prevent COVID-19 in 18 years of age and older – Pfizer BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson. The FDA has approved the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine for those age 16 and older. Additionally, the FDA has authorized the use of the Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in individuals 12 years of age and older.
Are the vaccines safe?

Yes. COVID-19 vaccines met the FDA's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness, and manufacturing. Millions of people have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history. The vaccines have undergone and will continue to undergo safety monitoring to ensure that they are safe and effective.

Are there any side effects from COVID-19 vaccines?

The most common side effect of the vaccines is mild injection site pain, including redness or swelling, but you might also experience fatigue, fever, headache, muscle pain, chills, or nausea. All of these are normal signs that your body is building antibodies as protection against the virus that causes COVID-19 and usually go away within a few days. Many people don't have any side effects at all, but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Are there any long-term impacts from the vaccine?

Serious side effects that could cause a long-term health problem are extremely unlikely following COVID-19 vaccination. Despite misinformation on the Internet, there is no evidence that the COVID-19 vaccine impacts fertility or reproductive capabilities.

How much do the vaccines cost?

All of the COVID-19 vaccines are free of charge to everyone living in the United States, regardless of immigration or health insurance status.

Can you still get COVID-19 once you’ve been vaccinated?

COVID-19 vaccines “teach” your immune system how to recognize and fight the virus that causes COVID-19. While uncommon, it is possible to contract COVID-19 right before or right after vaccination, before the vaccine has enough time to provide complete protection. These cases are rare and getting the vaccine will help keep you from getting seriously ill if you do get COVID-19.

Most people who get COVID-19 are unvaccinated. However, since vaccines are not 100% effective at preventing infection, some people who are fully vaccinated may still get COVID-19. These are called “breakthrough infections.” But fully vaccinated people who have breakthrough infection are much less likely to develop serious illness than those who are unvaccinated and get COVID-19.

Source for this material: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Scan to find a vaccination site near you.

Scan to access more information and resources on COVID-19 vaccines.

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