

# THE PET CONNECTION

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## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PET VACCINATION

Test your knowledge about pet vaccines:

### TRUE OR FALSE

1. Your dog or cat needs to be vaccinated every year.
2. Recent scientific study of pet vaccines by leading veterinary universities has resulted in new vaccine protocols being established.
3. Over vaccination of pets can cause auto immune diseases.
4. It is best to get all your pet's vaccinations on one day.
5. Certain breeds of dogs and cats are more sensitive to vaccinations.
6. All dogs, no matter their size, receive the same dose of vaccine.
7. Some animals have developed cancer at the injection site of their vaccination.
8. It is unusual for a pet to be sick, sore, or lethargic after receiving vaccinations.
9. Puppies and kittens must be vaccinated every month until they are 6 months old.
10. Rabies vaccine causes the most adverse reactions in pets.

### ANSWERS

1. False – Once your pet has received a series of puppy or kitten shots they can then be vaccinated at three year intervals.
2. True – Recent studies have proven that immunity from vaccines lasts longer than one year, and the new vaccine protocol recommends that once pets have received their initial puppy or kitten shot series they can then be boosted once every three years for most diseases.
3. True - Studies have also proven that over vaccinating a pet can seriously impair an animal's natural immune system, causing everything from chronic skin allergies to more serious auto immune diseases.
4. False – If possible it is best to spread a pet's shots out over several weeks, and avoid “combination shots”, which include several vaccines combined into one inoculation.
5. True – Sight hounds, collies, and toy breeds in dogs are in general more sensitive, along with some purebred longhair and siamese cats.
6. True – An itty bitty 3lb Yorkie receives the same dose of vaccine as a 100lb Rottweiler.
7. True – Injection site cancer seems more prevalent in cats, but can happen to dogs as well.
8. False – Pets are often sick after receiving vaccinations, especially if they are given several inoculations at one time.
9. False – There is a new vaccination protocol for puppies and kittens which recommends fewer inoculations, spread out over a longer period, with avoidance of combination shots.
10. True – Pets can have severe reactions to rabies vaccine, including death. Once a pet has received their initial rabies series they should only require boosters once every three years.

Be informed about vaccines, and once you are informed do not be afraid to challenge your veterinarian's current vaccine protocol if you do not think it is in the best interest of your pet's health.

Here are some websites to check out if you would like to know more about this topic:

[www.sacpaws.com/bb/viewtopic.php?id=202](http://www.sacpaws.com/bb/viewtopic.php?id=202)

[www.topdogboarding.com/vaccine\\_controversy.htm](http://www.topdogboarding.com/vaccine_controversy.htm)

[www.thedogplace.org/VACCINES/New.Vaccine.Protocol.0606.htm](http://www.thedogplace.org/VACCINES/New.Vaccine.Protocol.0606.htm)

