

**Traymar Airedales**

**Dam: Traymar's Don't Let it Go**

**Sire: Traymar Terrydale HK Excellent Adventure**

**Litter Date of Birth: April 29, 2020**

# Traymar Airedales

## Information about this litter

Dam

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar's Don't Let it Go

Sire

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar Terrydale HK Excellent Adventure

Litter Date of Birth: May 23, 2020

Registered Name Of Puppy \_\_\_\_\_

Microchip \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

## **Traymar Airedales**

### **Sales Contract**

This puppy is guaranteed healthy at the date of purchase. The pup may be returned for a full refund for 2 weeks after purchase, if found to have a genetically based defect or medical problem. If you have any health problems when your pup first arrives home please call me before you seek Vet assistance. Each puppy will be implanted with a microchip and be enrolled in the AKC Reunite Program.

The purchaser is informed that hip dysplasia is present in the Airedale Terrier breed. Purchaser understands that because of the multiple causes for this disorder no guarantee can be given that this pup will not develop HD. All breeding dogs are OFA certified for their hips. We also do not consider HD to be a life threatening problem.

Airedale puppies have all their baby teeth by 4 weeks, then their head grows around them. It's not unusual for the bottom canines to tend to lean into the mouth towards the roof of the mouth, they may even make contact. This is common, do not let any veterinarian talk you into any unnecessary removing baby teeth. They will lose all their baby teeth by the age of 6 months.

Included in your puppy pack is a shot protocol, we strongly recommend that this schedule is followed, over inoculation can be detrimental to your dog's health. Do not allow a veterinarian to talk you into over vaccinating your puppy.

At any time during the life of your dog the purchaser can no longer keep this dog (for whatever reason) it must be returned to Traymar to be cared for until a new home is found. We reserve the right to determine the suitability of the new home if the purchaser can no longer continue ownership.

Purchaser agrees that this dog it's to be maintained as a family companion and house dog. This includes, providing a securely fenced yard or frequent walks on a leash so that the dog is not allowed to run loose on its own. This also includes annual visits to a veterinarian for fecal exams and shots as needed. I strongly recommend that my shot protocols are followed .

The breeder agrees to be available throughout the life of your pet to answer questions and help solve problems that might arise, and also to provide support for puppy owners when needed.

We are AKC Breeders of Merit Gold and therefore participate in 100% registration of all our litters. Your papers and your AKC Reunite enrollment will be mailed to you from the AKC.

Dam

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar's Don't Let it Go

Sire

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar Terrydale HK Excellent Adventure

Litter Date of Birth: May 23, 2020

Margo Dupre \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Traymar Airedales**

Authorization of Signature Use form

Date\_\_\_\_\_

I (we) authorize the use of the following signatures to register an AKC registered puppy in our name from the following litter:

Dam

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name:Traymar's Don't Let it Go

Sire

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar Terrydale HK Excellent Adventure

Litter Date of Birth: May 23, 2020

Owner Name \_\_\_\_\_

Owner Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Co Owner Name\_\_\_\_\_

Co Owner Signature\_\_\_\_\_

This form will be kept on file with the breeders of the litter in case it is needed by the AKC.

## Traymar Airedales

### Spay and Neuter Contract

Buyer agrees to have this puppy spayed or neutered within one year of the signing of this contract. Recommended after 14 months of age. This is an important issue for the owner of a companion pet. It is a safeguard against unwanted litters. Upon the purchase of your pup you will sign a permission slip to allow the use of you signature to register your puppy with the AKC.

Your pup will be registered with limited registration. This option is offered to breeders by AKC. It means that your pup will receive a registration that limits your dog to be shown or used in a breeding capacity. You can use this type of registration to show in all performance events.

You will be the primary contact and I as the breeder will be second contact if you can not be reached.

Dam

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar's Don't Let it Go

Sire

Registration Number: RN30255811

Registered Name: Traymar Terrydale HK Excellent Adventure

Litter Date of Birth: May 23, 2020

Margo Dupre \_\_\_\_\_

Purchaser \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Traymar Airedales

### Feeding instructions

We feed Fromm Adult Classic brand of food. We do not feed puppy food. The reason we feed adult food to puppies is that Airedales do not require high protein and fat foods to grow normally. Some puppy foods are too rich for Airedales and can cause loose stools and digestive upset. We strongly recommend that you use a top quality Adult Food for the life of your dog. Please refrain from feeding your dog grain free food. Below are feeding instructions for this litter. Always remember to keep a good supply of fresh water available at all times as Airedales love to drink and sometimes play in their water bucket. This should be attached to their crate as not to spill water while alone at home. Remember to NOT LEAVE PUP IN CRATE WITH A COLLAR ON while you are gone.

We feed pups twice a day AM & PM . They will adapt to your family's lifestyle. Amount must be increased as the pup grows. If all is consumed at each meal increase by one-half cup. Pay attention to how much weight puppy is gaining so that they do not become too fat or too skinny. You can add a small amount ( a spoon full ) of high quality canned meat. Leftovers such a veggies and meats can be added to encourage eating. We use vanilla yogurt when weaning pups so a small amount added to food is a good thing. We use chicken thighs cooked in the slow cooker, the meat is shredded and added to their evening meal. RAW Beef bones are used for teething . We keep them frozen and pup can have one each week to keep them busy thru teething. The marrow may give them a loose stool for a day. Raw bones can be given throughout their life to keep teeth healthy and clean.

## Early Spay-Neuter Considerations for the Canine Athlete

courtesy of *Canine Sports Productions* by Chris Zink DVM, PhD, DACVP

### Orthopedic Considerations

A study by Salmeri et al in 1991 found that bitches spayed at 7 weeks grew significantly taller than those spayed at 7 months, and that those spayed at 7 months had significantly delayed closure of the growth plates than those not spayed (or presumably spayed after the growth plates had closed).(1) A study of 1444 Golden Retrievers performed in 1998 and 1999 also found bitches and dogs spayed and neutered at less than a year of age were significantly taller than those spayed or neutered at more than a year of age.(2) The sex hormones promote the closure of the growth plates, so the bones of dogs or bitches neutered or spayed before puberty continue to grow. Dogs that have been spayed or neutered well before puberty can frequently be identified by their longer limbs, lighter bone structure, narrow chests and narrow skulls. This abnormal growth frequently results in significant alterations in body proportions and particularly the lengths (and therefore weights) of certain bones relative to others. For example, if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at 8 months when a dog gets spayed or neutered, but the tibia, which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age continues to grow, then an abnormal angle may develop at the stifle. In addition, with the extra growth, the lower leg below the stifle becomes heavier (because it is longer), causing increased stresses on the cranial cruciate ligament. These structural alterations may be the reason why at least one recent study has shown that spayed and neutered dogs have a higher incidence of CCL rupture.(3) Another recent study showed that dogs spayed or neutered before 5 1/2 months had a significantly higher incidence of hip dysplasia than those spayed or neutered after 5 1/2 months of age.(4) Breeders of purebred dogs should be concerned about these two studies and



particularly the latter, because they might make incorrect breeding decisions if they consider the hip status of pups they bred that were spayed or neutered early.

### **Cancer Considerations**

There is a slightly increased risk of mammary cancer if a female dog has one heat cycle. But my experience indicates that fewer canine athletes develop mammary cancer as compared to those that damage their cranial cruciate ligaments. In addition, only about 30 % of mammary cancers are malignant and, as in humans, when caught and surgically removed early the prognosis is very good.(5) Since canine athletes are handled frequently and generally receive prompt veterinary care, mammary cancer is not quite the specter it has been in the past. A retrospective study of cardiac tumors in dogs showed that there was a 5 times greater risk of **hemangiosarcoma**, one of the three most common cancers in dogs, in spayed bitches than intact bitches and a 2.4 times greater risk of hemangiosarcoma in neutered dogs as compared to intact males.(6) A study of 3218 dogs demonstrated that dogs that were neutered before a year of age had a significantly increased chance of developing **bone cancer**, a cancer that is much more life-threatening than mammary cancer, and that affects both genders.(7) A separate study showed that neutered dogs had a two-fold higher risk of developing bone cancer.(8) Despite the common belief that neutering dogs helps prevent prostate cancer, at least one study suggests that neutering provides no benefit.(9)

### **Behavioral Considerations**

The study that identified a higher incidence of cranial cruciate ligament rupture in spayed or neutered dogs also identified an increased incidence of **sexual behaviors in males and females** that were neutered early.(3) Further, the study that identified a higher incidence of hip dysplasia in dogs neutered or spayed before 5 1/2 months also showed that early age gonadectomy was associated with an increased incidence of

noise phobias and undesirable sexual behaviors.(4) A recent report of the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation reported significantly more behavioral problems in spayed and neutered bitches and dogs. The most commonly observed behavioral problem in spayed females was fearful behavior and the most common problem in males was aggression.(10) Yet another study showed that unneutered males were significantly less likely than neutered males to suffer cognitive impairment when they were older.(11) Females were not evaluated in that study.

### **Other Health Considerations**

A number of studies have shown that there is an increase in the incidence of female urinary incontinence in dogs spayed early.(12) Interestingly, neutering also has been associated with an increased likelihood of urethral sphincter incontinence in males.(13) This problem is an inconvenience, and not usually life-threatening, but nonetheless one that requires the dog to be medicated for life. A health survey of several thousand Golden Retrievers showed that spayed or neutered dogs were more likely to develop hypothyroidism.(2) This study is consistent with the results of another study in which neutering and spaying was determined to be the most significant gender-associated risk factor for development of hypothyroidism.(14) Infectious diseases were more common in dogs that were spayed or neutered at 24 weeks or less as opposed to those undergoing gonadectomy at more than 24 weeks.(15) Finally, the AKC-CHF report demonstrated a higher incidence of adverse reactions to vaccines in neutered dogs as compared to intact.(10)

For these reasons, I have significant concerns with spaying or neutering dogs before puberty, particularly for the canine athlete. And frankly, if something were healthier for the canine athlete, would we not also want that for pet dogs as well? But of course, there is the pet overpopulation problem. How can we prevent the production of unwanted dogs while still leaving the gonads to produce the hormones that are so

important to canine growth and development? The answer is to perform vasectomies in males and tubal ligation in females, to be followed after maturity by ovariohysterectomy in females to prevent mammary cancer and pyometra. One possible disadvantage is that vasectomy does not prevent some unwanted behaviors associated with males such as marking and humping. On the other hand, it has been my experience that females and neutered males actively participate in these behaviors too. Really, training is the best solution for these issues. Another possible disadvantage is finding a veterinarian who is experienced in performing these procedures. Nonetheless, some do, and if the procedures were in greater demand, more veterinarians would learn them.

I believe it is important that we assess each situation individually. If a pet dog is going to live with an intelligent, well-informed family that understands the problem of pet overpopulation and can be trusted to keep the dog under their control at all times and to not breed it, I do not recommend spaying or neutering before 14 months of age. In the case of dogs that might be going to less vigilant families, vasectomy and tubal ligation will allow proper growth while preventing unwanted pregnancies

## **Puppy Vaccines: Why Your Puppy Needs So Many Shots**

Ever wonder why puppies need multiple shots" in order to become fully immunized? Here are the reasons behind puppy vaccine schedules and how best to strategize your puppy's immunizations."

By

Nancy Kerns

The first rule of puppy vaccinations is that there are no hard and fast rules for puppy vaccinations; the best way to make sure a puppy is fully immunized against the most common contagious diseases totally depends on the health and past history of the puppy's mother, his age, and his environment. A puppy being raised by a responsible breeder may require only one combination vaccination in order to become immunized; whereas a puppy raised in a shelter might be given as many as six or seven combination vaccinations before being declared fully protected.

There are several reasons why puppy vaccination protocols vary so wildly, but the most important one to understand is that every puppy is an individual, presenting a unique and unpredictable immunological history to his veterinarian. If you understand the reasons that veterinarians recommend multiple "puppy shots," you will be better prepared to both protect your puppy from risky exposure to contagious diseases and, possibly, help reduce the number of vaccinations the puppy receives on the road to becoming fully immunized.

Few new dog owners understand why puppies need multiple "shots." Most veterinarians recommend that puppies are vaccinated for distemper, parvovirus, and adenovirus (hepatitis) a number of times, starting when they are about four to six weeks old, and again every three or four weeks, with their last "puppy vaccination" given after they are about 16 to 20 weeks old. The most common guesses as to why puppies need all those vaccinations?

**A) Because it takes at least four vaccinations for full immunity.**

**B) Each shot "boosts" the immunity from the first shot.**

The actual answer would be C) Neither of these. Repeated puppy vaccines do not increase or “boost” the immunity in any way. Vaccines are repeated in order to make sure the puppy receives a vaccination as soon as his immune system is able to respond as we want it to – to respond by developing antibodies to the disease antigens in the vaccines. Let’s do a bit of review, to make sure all the terms used here are understood.

### **Dog Vaccination Terminology**

Let’s do a bit of review, to make sure all the terms used here are understood.

An antigen is a substance that induces a response from a body’s immune system. In this discussion, when we talk about antigens, we mean a form of the diseases that commonly infect puppies and dogs.

A vaccine is a form of disease antigen that has been altered in some way so that his immune system will recognize it as a foreign invader and respond to it by destroying substances that resemble that antigen in the future. Some vaccinations are made with “killed” viruses; some are genetically altered so they resemble the disease antigen but cannot make the animal ill (“modified live”); and still others are highly weakened, live strains of the disease.

Antibodies are the immune system protective substances that recognize and destroy the agents of disease (antigens).

When we administer a vaccine to a puppy, we are in effect training his immune system to recognize the disease antigen and mount an immune response to it – to form antibodies that will recognize and destroy those antigens whenever the dog comes into contact with them again.

When a puppy has been vaccinated and his immune system has formed antibodies to the disease antigens in the vaccines he received, he is considered immunized against those diseases.

### **How Maternal Interference Affects Puppy Immunization**

Immunizing puppies is a tiny bit more complicated due to a mechanism called maternal interference.

All puppies who are nursed adequately by their mother in the first two or three days after birth receive some of her protective antibodies from drinking her “colostrum” – the yellowish substance that the mother produces before she starts actual milk production.

The mother’s antibodies protect the puppies for a highly variable amount of time – anywhere from about three weeks to about 12 weeks. These antibodies gradually “fade” from the puppies’ systems as the puppies’ own immune systems develop.

When a puppy is vaccinated during the period of time that his mother’s antibodies are still active in his system, those maternal antibodies will detect and destroy the disease antigen in the vaccine, rendering that particular vaccine useless to the puppy. He can’t develop his own antibodies to disease antigens until his mother’s antibodies have faded from his system. Also, while some puppies may have received a whopping dose of antibodies from their mom, others may have received few or none. If the mother was never vaccinated herself, and never came into contact with those disease antigens, she would have none of these antigens to pass along to the pups in her colostrum.

So, should puppy owners just wait to vaccinate puppies, until the time when any amount of maternal antibodies are sure to have faded (12 to 14 weeks is generally considered as the outer limit of any maternal interference)? The answer is NO, because we don’t know when any given puppy’s maternal immunity is going to fade, and he would have no protection from disease in the period between the fading of his mom’s antibodies and receiving his first vaccination.

A mother’s antibodies might fade when he’s three weeks old, when he’s 12 weeks old, or any time in between. If the protection he got from his mom fades at three weeks, and we don’t vaccinate him until he’s 14 weeks old, he is vulnerable and without any protection whatsoever, until at least a few days after his vaccination. That’s too long to go without protection, unless you plan to raise him in a sterile bubble. And there are many compelling reasons having to do with his behavioral development to not just keep him home.

### **Why Puppies Might Receive Excess Shots**

Instead, we give the puppy a series of vaccinations, about three to four weeks apart, starting when the puppy is four to six weeks old. The idea is to try to reduce the size of the “window of opportunity” when the mom’s antibodies fade (leaving the puppy

unprotected) and the next vaccine is given, to reduce the chances that he comes into contact with disease antigen when he is unprotected.

It might be that the mother's antibodies faded early, and the first vaccine was given at four weeks, and he developed his own protective antibodies. In this case, he doesn't actually need any further vaccines, but we don't know that, so he is given additional vaccinations every three to four weeks until he's about 20 weeks old. It's more than he needs, but at least he was protected.

Or it might be that the puppy was vaccinated at five weeks, again at eight weeks, and again at 11 weeks, but his mother's antibodies were still circulating until he was about 12 weeks old. The mom's antibodies would have neutralized all those first vaccines, so when the antibodies finally faded, he was left without protection from disease until his next vaccine was received at 14 weeks. This is actually the worst-case scenario, because many puppy owners are taking their pups into high-risk environments at this age, thinking, no doubt, "He's had three shots already; he must have at least some immunity by now!"

There is no practical way to know whether the mother's antibodies are still circulating in a puppy's body or when they have faded. And each mother and each puppy is an individual; she will pass along a variable amount of antibodies, and these will fade at different times in each puppy. So we vaccinate several times, until we are past the point in time when any maternal antibodies can interfere with proper immunization.

### **Dog Shelter Vaccination Protocols May Vary**

Puppies who have been bred and raised by a professional, responsible breeder are likely to be given far fewer vaccines than puppies who came from a shelter environment. In a professional breeding program, the mother dog's vaccination status will be known, and her first nursing session will be observed, so better assumptions can be made about how much protection the puppies will receive from her maternal antibodies. Further, the breeder will likely have experience with keeping the puppies from being exposed to disease antigens, by requiring visitors to remove their shoes, wash their hands, and so on. These protections may allow the breeder to administer the first puppy vaccines at eight weeks or later, and perhaps just one or two more vaccines (with the last one given after 16 or 18 weeks).

Puppies who have the misfortune to be born in or surrendered to a shelter after birth may not receive any antibodies from their mothers; if their mothers were not vaccinated or otherwise exposed to the core diseases, they wouldn't have antibodies to pass along.

Also, puppies may not have had sufficient access to colostrum. In addition, shelters are often teeming with infectious disease agents. For all of these reasons, puppies who are born and/or raised in a shelter environment may be vaccinated much more aggressively – some might say excessively – than puppies who were born with more advantages.

Shelters often vaccinate puppies for the first time at just four to six weeks of age. At four weeks, the puppies' immune systems are just barely mature enough to develop antibodies following exposure to disease antigens; this is done in an effort to immunize puppies who didn't receive any maternal antibodies as quickly as possible.

Another vaccination protocol common in shelters is vaccinating every three weeks until the puppies are 16 to 18 or even 20 weeks of age. In this case, it's the possibility that the puppies received far more than the usual amount of maternal antibodies than usual that causes shelters to take this tack.

If an unvaccinated dog contracts and then survives a disease like parvovirus, she actually develops far stronger immunity to the disease than she would had she been vaccinated against the disease in the first place – and she will pass along this very robust protection to her puppies (as long as they receive an adequate amount of her colostrum). Her antibodies will likely take the longest amount of time to fade in her puppies, so her puppies need to have their final vaccines a bit later in order to prevent this strong maternal antibody interference.

Finally, there is the sad fact shelter staffers often have to guess at the age of the puppies in their care. Shelter immunization protocols are usually designed with enough overlap to ensure that a puppy has every possible chance of receiving adequate protection from contagious disease.

### **Finishing Your Puppy's Vaccinations**

A puppy is considered fully immunized against the “core” (the most common, and most problematic) diseases of adenovirus (hepatitis), distemper, and parvovirus when he has received a vaccination for these diseases after the age of 16 to 18 weeks. (Note: Until recently, the “puppy shots” were considered complete when the last one was given at 16 weeks. New research states that final puppy parvovirus vaccine should be at or after 18 weeks of age.)

Rabies is another “core” vaccination, but it is not given to puppies before 12 weeks of age. A puppy can receive his first rabies vaccine at 12 weeks (but no sooner), and should be given another rabies vaccine a year later. A vaccination is required by most states every three years afterward. (This is a matter of state law, put in place for the



protection of human health; a dog who has received two or more rabies vaccines is likely protected from that disease for life.)

Until the final “puppy” vaccines are given at 16-18 weeks, the puppy should be protected from potential exposure to disease antigens, but this doesn’t mean he shouldn’t ever leave the house until the time of his final “puppy shot.” It just means that his exposure to the outside world should be carefully considered. Do bring him to the homes of relatives and friends whose dogs are demonstrably healthy, vaccinated, and friendly. Do not take the puppy for walks in places that are highly trafficked by unknown dogs, such as sidewalks, parks (especially dog parks), pet supply stores, and so on.

Also, if someone in your home has tracked through places that are likely to be covered with agents of contagious disease – such as a dog park or veterinary clinic – keep their shoes outside the front door, and ask them to wash their hands before they play with the puppy.

If you attend puppy training or socialization classes, be sure the instructor takes the following precautions:

- The puppy school should require each puppy’s vaccine records, to make sure all the puppies are in the process of receiving veterinary care and proper protection from either catching or spreading disease
- A puppy with any signs of illness (such as lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, and/or an increased temperature) should be disallowed from attending class.
- There should be equipment on hand so that every “accident” that a puppy has in class can be quickly cleaned up with a proper antibacterial solution.

### **Passing the Puppy Titer Test**

The vast majority of puppies will be successfully immunized after the series of vaccinations described here, but a tiny percentage will be what are called “non responders” – incapable of developing protective antibodies in response to vaccines. These dogs will be vulnerable to infection by these diseases, no matter how many times they are vaccinated, and thus should be protected from high-risk environments (wherever a lot of dogs congregate).

There is a way to determine whether the final vaccination (at least) that was administered to your puppy triggered his immune system to develop protective antibodies for the “core” diseases he was vaccinated for. At least two weeks after what is hoped will be the puppy’s final vaccination – at approximately 18 to 20 weeks of age – you can ask your veterinarian for a “vaccine titer test.” A blood sample is taken, sent to a laboratory, and tested for the presence of antibodies that protect the puppy against parvovirus and distemper. If these antibodies are detected, he’s done with his core vaccinations.

However, if the vaccine titer test comes back with a negative result, it’s recommended that the puppy be vaccinated one more time, perhaps with a different brand of vaccine than was used previously. Two weeks later, the vaccine titer test should be repeated. If the result is still negative, the puppy will be considered a non-responder, vulnerable to contracting any of the core diseases he may be exposed to.

Vaccine titer tests are being increasingly used by knowledgeable owners who want confirmation that their puppy is protected from disease, but there are still many veterinarians who are unfamiliar with the tests, and/or skeptical of their usefulness. Some clinic managers may be unable to quote a price for this test, or unsure of what test to order from the laboratory they use. We’ve heard of clinics charging as much as \$200 for the test, which is ridiculous. In contrast, highly progressive clinics may offer a SNAP (in-office) test that will reveal the results within a half-hour.

Alternatively, ask your veterinarian to take a blood sample, and send it to the Dr. Ronald D. Schultz Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) School of Veterinary Medicine. This lab charges just \$25 for the test (though you will need to pay for the blood to be drawn and shipping the to lab). See Dr. Schultz’s website for instructions and an order form.

Nancy Kerns is the editor of Whole Dog Journal.

## What Is Leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis is a disease caused by the *Leptospira* bacteria and affects both humans and animals.

It's an infectious disease transmitted through an infected animal's urine. The main transmitters of the disease are dogs, rodents, and farm animals.

Those who are in direct or indirect contact with the urine of infected animals or with water or soil also contaminated will result in a very high chance of getting a leptospirosis infection.

## A Leptospirosis Dog Vaccine Can Protect More Than Just Your Dog!

With the number of leptospirosis cases on the rise in the United States, there is a new, improved vaccine in the market.

Because it is a non-core vaccine in the US, you have the choice of whether or not to vaccinate your dog, although the pros outweigh the cons.

It is recommended for dogs to be vaccinated against this vicious, preventable disease, and those who are at particular risk of infection should be definitely protected against it by vaccination.

Even though your dog may not be in contact with infected rodents and farm animals, or with contaminated water and soil, weather patterns change all the time — therefore all areas are at risk of having leptospirosis-infected populations.

Because lepto is a zoonotic disease — meaning it can be passed from animals to humans — vaccinating your dog will not only protect him against the bacteria but also all your human loved ones that come in contact with your pup.

Making sure that the dogs in your household can't be infected by this disease gives you the guarantee that no relative or friend gets sick, as there is no vaccine for humans. This disease, like many others, is particularly aggressive towards pregnant women and people with compromised immune systems.

You will even be protecting other animals that your four-legged friend comes in contact with — all with a simple, safe, and recommended vaccine.

## **Best Practices for Vaccination of Dogs**

1. In accordance with fundamental medical principles and vaccine manufacturers' recommendations, vaccinate only healthy dogs. If there is a health condition present, it should be addressed, and the vaccine administered at a later date, when the condition is resolved.
2. If blood testing, such as 4Dx or a complete blood count and body chemistry profile, is being run, wait for results before vaccinating the dog. If results are abnormal, resolve the abnormality before vaccinating.
3. Do not administer more than one vaccine at a time.
4. When spreading out vaccines, use a 4-week interval.
5. A puppy's initial vaccine is ideally administered no earlier than 10 weeks of age.
6. Do not vaccinate females in season. Hormonal changes can alter a normal response to vaccines.
7. Do not vaccinate at times of stress, such as during boarding, grooming, or at the time of surgery. Do not vaccinate dogs with a previous history of adverse reactions. Use titers.

Laurie S. Coger, DVM, CVCP  
HealthyDogWorkshop.com

## Recommended Vaccination Protocol

<u>Age</u>	<u>Vaccine</u>
10 weeks	Parvovirus
14 weeks	DAP (Distemper, adenovirus, parvovirus)
18 weeks	Distemper/Parvovirus titer. If inadequate, repeat DAP and re-titer in 4 weeks.
22 weeks	Rabies
1 year post last vaccination	Distemper/Parvovirus titer
1 year post initial Rabies vaccination	Rabies Vaccine 3 year, according to applicable laws

Perform vaccine titers for distemper and parvovirus every three years thereafter, if desired. However, a “low” titer in a dog who previously had protective antibody levels is not necessarily an indication for revaccination, as memory cells likely persist. Vaccinate for rabies virus according to applicable state laws. As common sense and good medical practice would dictate, do NOT vaccinate females during heat, pregnancy or lactation. Do not vaccinate during times of stress such as: surgery, travel, boarding, grooming, illness or infection. Do not vaccinate puppies earlier than 8 weeks.

Note: This schedule is one I recommend. All protocols should be tailored to the individual patient’s needs and/or situation.

*Laurie S. Coger, DVM, CVCP*  
*HealthyDogWorkshop.com*