

We Have the Tools to Fight COVID-19

Vaccines

- [Vaccines](#) reduce the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19.
- [People who are up to date on vaccines](#), including booster doses when eligible are likely to have stronger protection against COVID-19 variants, including Omicron. CDC recommends everyone eligible get vaccinated and a booster shot.

Masks

When to wear a mask

- Wear a mask with the best fit, protection, and comfort for you.
- If you are in an area with a high [COVID-19 Community Level](#) and are ages 2 or older, wear a mask indoors in public.
- If you are sick and need to be around others, or are caring for someone who has COVID-19, wear a mask.
- If you are at increased risk for severe illness, or live with or spend time with someone at higher risk, speak to your healthcare provider about wearing a mask at medium COVID-19 Community Levels.

Testing

- [Tests](#) for COVID-19 tell you [if you have an infection](#) at the time of the test. This type of test is called a “viral” test because it looks for viral infection. Antigen or [Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests \(NAATs\)](#) are viral tests.
 - Additional tests would be needed to determine which variant caused your infection, but these typically are not authorized for public use.
- As new variants emerge, scientists will continue to evaluate how well tests detect current infection.
- Self-tests may be used if you have COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed or potentially exposed to an individual with COVID-19.
 - Even if you don't have symptoms and have not been exposed to an individual with COVID-19, using a self-test before gathering indoors with others can give you information about the risk of spreading the virus that causes COVID-19.