



### Basics

- Store vaccine in an ultra-cold freezer or refrigerator. See guidance below for each storage unit.
- Do **NOT** store in:
  - The thermal shipping container\*
  - A freezer
- Check and record storage unit temperatures each workday. See guidance below for each type of storage unit. Save storage records for 3 years, unless your jurisdiction requires a longer time period.

### Deliveries

#### Vaccine

1. The vaccine will arrive in a thermal shipping container at ultra-cold temperatures between -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F) with dry ice or between -25°C and -15°C (-13°F and 5°F). The vial for children 5 through 11 years of age has an orange cap and orange border on the label.
2. Follow the manufacturer's guidance for unpacking the vaccine. ([www.cvdvaccine-us.com/product-storage-and-dry-ice](https://www.cvdvaccine-us.com/product-storage-and-dry-ice)).
3. Remove the temperature monitoring device from the shipping container and return using the included pre-labeled foldable return box.
4. Dispose of the single-use thermal shipping container. Do NOT use the thermal shipping container for storage.\*

#### Ancillary Supply Kit

An ancillary supply kit will be delivered separately from the vaccine and includes:

- **Mixing supplies:** Diluent, needles, syringes, and sterile alcohol prep pads
  - Mixing supplies are packaged separately with a green identification label.
  - Do NOT use mixing supplies to administer vaccine.
- **Administration supplies:** Needles, syringes, sterile alcohol prep pads, vaccination record cards, and some PPE.
  - Ancillary supply kits have been reconfigured to support the number of doses ordered.

\*Thermal shipping containers delivered to Alaska, Hawaii, and the US-affiliated Pacific Islands may be used as temporary storage. Refer to the manufacturer for more detailed guidance on using the thermal shipping container for storage: <https://www.cvdvaccine-us.com/product-storage-and-dry-ice>

### Ultra-Cold Freezer

Before mixing, the vaccine may be stored in an ultra-cold freezer between -90°C and -60°C (-130°F and -76°F).

- Store vaccine vials upright in the tray or box.
- Protect from light.
- Vaccine may be stored until the expiration date. Vaccine expires 12 months after the manufacture date.
  - The manufacture date is printed on the vial (orange cap)
  - Count out 12 months, using the month printed on the vial as month 1.
- The vaccine expires on the last day of the 12th month
- Expired vaccine should NEVER be administered. To prevent this, use CDC's COVID-19 Vaccine Expiration Date Tracking Tool
- As the expiration date approaches, contact the manufacturer to determine if it has been extended. Do not discard vaccine without ensuring the expiration date has passed.



**Month 1:**  
Jan 2022



**Month 3:**  
March 2022



**Month 6:**  
June 2022



**Month 9:**  
Sept 2022



**Month 12:**  
Dec 2022

(Printed on vial)

**Expires**  
**Dec 31, 2022**



## Refrigerator

Before mixing, the vaccine may be stored in the refrigerator between 2°C and 8°C (36°F and 46°F) for up to 10 weeks. After 10 weeks, contact the manufacturer for guidance. If directed to discard any remaining vials, follow the manufacturer's and your jurisdiction's guidance for proper disposal.

- Monitor how long the vaccine has been in the refrigerator using CDC's beyond-use date labels for Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.
- Store the vaccine in the tray or box.
- Protect from light.
- Do NOT refreeze thawed vaccine.

## Temperature Monitoring

**Ultra-cold freezer or refrigerator:** Storage unit temperatures must be monitored regularly, checked, and recorded at the beginning of the workday to determine if any temperature excursions have occurred since the last temperature check. For accurate temperature monitoring, use a digital data logger (DDL) with a detachable probe that best reflects vaccine temperatures.

- Ultra-cold temperatures: Use a probe designed specifically to measure ultra-cold temperatures.
- Refrigerated storage: Use a probe buffered with glycol, glass beads, sand, or Teflon<sup>®</sup>.

Check and record the temperature daily using CDC's temperature log. Use one of the options below:

- **Option 1 (preferred): Minimum/Maximum (Min/Max) Temperature**  
Most DDLs display min/max temperatures. Check and record the min/max temperatures at the start of each workday.
- **Option 2: Current Temperature**  
If the DDL does not display min/max temperatures, check and record the current temperature at the start and end of the workday. Review the continuous DDL temperature data daily.

## Diluent

0.9% sodium chloride (normal saline, preservative-free) diluent is included in the ancillary supply kits. Follow the manufacturer's guidance for storing the diluent.

## Mixed Vaccine

- Once mixed, vials can be stored between 2°C to 25°C (35°F to 77°F) for up to 12 hours.
- Discard any remaining vaccine after 12 hours.
- Mixed vaccine should NOT be returned to ultra-cold freezer storage.

## Disposal

Once vaccine has reached its expiration or beyond-use date, contact the manufacturer for guidance on whether it can still be used. If instructed to dispose of vaccine, dispose of the vial (with any remaining vaccine) and packaging as medical waste according to your local and state regulations. Contact your jurisdiction's immunization program (<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/imz-managers/awardee-imz-websites.html>) for guidance.

**CDC's Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine materials** <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html>

**CDC's Vaccine Storage and Handling Toolkit** <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/admin/storage/toolkit/storage-handling-toolkit.pdf>

**CDC's Pfizer Beyond-Use Date (BUD) labels** <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/downloads/bud-tracking-labels.pdf>

**CDC's Freezer and Refrigerator Temperature Logs** <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/covid-19/info-by-product/pfizer/index.html>

For additional information, refer to the manufacturer's website at [www.cvdvaccine.com](http://www.cvdvaccine.com)