

## 7 Reasons You May Need a COVID-19 Viral Test

A COVID-19 viral test can help keep you and others safe by letting you know if you have the virus. Even if you're up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines, there are times when you may need to get a test. If you have questions about COVID-19 testing, talk to your doctor or go to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) to use the COVID-19 Viral Testing Tool. Here are some reasons to get tested.



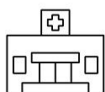
**You have one or more symptoms of COVID-19.** Your symptoms may feel like a cold, the flu, allergies, or an upset stomach. Even if these symptoms are mild, get tested right away.



**You've been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19.** It's important to be tested, even if you're up to date on your COVID-19 vaccines or you don't have symptoms. Get tested at least 5 days after you've been exposed.



**You're traveling.** You may need to be tested before and after you travel.



**You're having a medical procedure.** Your doctor may ask you to be tested.



**You are asked to get a test.** For example, your school or workplace may ask you to be tested.



**You want to make it safer to be around other people.** For example, you may need a test before ending isolation or quarantine.



**You're gathering indoors with people who don't live with you.** This is especially important if you may be around people who aren't vaccinated or are at high risk for serious illness from COVID-19 .

If your test is positive, talk to your doctor right away or visit [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for more instructions.

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