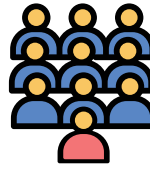


# 5 FACTS ABOUT MEASLES

## FACT 1: MEASLES IS A VERY CONTAGIOUS DISEASE CAUSED BY A VIRUS



Measles spreads through the air when a sick person **coughs or sneezes**. The virus can stay in the air up to 2 hours after a person with measles leaves the space.



About **9 out of 10** people who come near a person with measles will become infected if they are **not** immune.

## FACT 2: MEASLES CAN BE SERIOUS



Measles can be **dangerous**, especially for **babies and young children**.



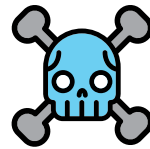
About 1 out of 5 people who develop measles will be **hospitalized**.



Measles can lead to **pneumonia** (a serious lung infection), brain damage, deafness, and death.



**Encephalitis.** About 1 child out of every 1,000 who get measles will develop encephalitis (swelling of the brain). This can leave the child deaf or with intellectual disability.



**Death.** Nearly 1 to 3 of every 1,000 children who become infected with measles will die from respiratory and neurologic complications.

## FACT 3: SYMPTOMS OF MEASLES



High fever



Cough



Runny nose



Red and/or watery eyes



Rash

## FACT 4: BEST FORM OF PROTECTION IS VACCINATION



- The best way to protect against measles is with the **MMR (measles-mumps-rubella) vaccine**.
- **Two doses** of the MMR vaccine are **97%** effective at preventing measles infection.



Children are recommended to receive **2 doses** of MMR vaccine:

- **First dose** at age **12 through 15 months**
- **Second dose** at age **4 through 6 years** (before school entry)

## FACT 5: MMR VACCINE OFFERS LIFETIME PROTECTION



Most people who are vaccinated with the MMR vaccine will be **protected for life**.  
Getting vaccinated helps **protect your community** by preventing the spread of outbreaks.

To find your child's **MMR vaccine status**, visit <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/request-immunization-record/>  
If you need help **finding a vaccine** for your child, visit: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/immunization/provider-locator/>  
To **learn more** about measles, visit: [vdh.virginia.gov/measles](https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/measles)