

# When to Do a Home-Test for COVID-19

I can do an easy test at home to see if I have COVID-19. This test is called a home-test, self-test, or at-home test. People can buy an at-home test at a pharmacy, retail store, or online. Insurance should cover the cost. I can keep the test kit at home until I need to use it. Test kits have expiration dates on them. An expiration date tells me that the test kit is not good and should be thrown away after that date. If my test kit is expired, I should get a new one.



There are 3 reasons why I should take an at-home test, even if I have gotten the COVID-19 vaccine.



- 1) If I feel sick or have 1 or more COVID-19 symptoms, like a cough, sore throat, fever, headache, or body aches, I should test right away.



- 2) If I have been close to someone who has COVID-19, even if I have no symptoms, I can take a test 5 full days after a close contact, even if I don't feel sick.



- 3) If I am going to an indoor event, I can take a test right before I go to make sure I do not have COVID-19 so I don't spread to other people.

If I have questions about when I should take an at-home COVID-19 test, I can ask a trusted person, or call a doctor, nurse, pharmacist, or my local health department. If I continue to feel sick after a few days or my symptoms get worse, I should call my doctor or go to a clinic.



For more information visit: [www.go.iu.edu/4pJY](http://www.go.iu.edu/4pJY)