

# Puppy Love

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Rabies is a virus that is transmitted by contact with the saliva of an infected animal, usually through a bite. Once bitten, the virus travels along the nerves of the victim going to the spinal cord and then up to the brain. All warm blooded mammals, including humans, can contract rabies, there is no cure and the disease is always fatal.

In the USA we have procedures and laws in place to reduce the rate of rabies fatalities. By law, all dogs are required to get a rabies vaccination with additional boosters of the vaccine on a specific schedule. All states require the vaccination be administered by a veterinarian who will provide you with certification verifying your little doxie has been vaccinated, usually a metal tag and a paper certificate.

If there is any suspicion that your little doxie has been exposed to rabies he will be put in quarantine for a minimum for ten days. Under certain circumstances this can include vaccinated dogs. But, in the most severe situation, following specific legal protocol, the officials might make the decision to euthanize a dog in order to conduct medical testing for verification of the rabies virus. Local officials monitor all dogs that are under quarantine. **VACCINATE!!!!**



**Be a Hero  
All Year Long...  
it takes less  
than hour  
to vaccinate!**



These humans like costumes, candy, and such  
For doggies like me, it all seems a bit much  
My masters I keep happy by wagging and tricks  
By barking and jumping, and catching those sticks.  
Is it too much to ask they forget doggie clothes?  
It messes my fur and detracts from my nose.  
They want me so scary, a pirate this year  
Swashbuckler with patch, a mean dog with a snear,  
But I'm meant for joy and for keeping things light  
Is it too much to be costume-free for one night?  
A Halloween dog, oh it just should not be  
I can't wait for November to go back to "just me."

by Christine Zibas



**Common Carriers  
of Rabies:**  
raccoons, skunks, foxes,  
bats, groundhogs