






# Birth Control Methods - Hormonal Contraceptives

	Effectiveness	Options	Frequency	Interruptions	Chance of Pregnancy After Stopping Use	Health Care Advisory	Prescription Required?	HIV/STD Protection
<b>The Patch</b> 	99%	Only 1 type	Applied weekly for 3 weeks. Not used during Week 4	None	Once stopped, may take a few cycles before you can become pregnant	Must learn how to apply correctly	Yes	No
<b>Oral Contraceptive (The Pill)</b> 	99%	Available in different doses	Take pill daily at approximately the same time each day	None	Once stopped, may take a few cycles before you can become pregnant	May need instruction to take pills correctly	Yes	No
<b>Contraceptive Injections</b> 	99%	Monthly injection or every 3 months	Monthly or every 3 months	None	Ovulation may be delayed up to a year	Health care professional administers injection	Yes	No
<b>Progestin-Releasing Intrauterine Device (IUD)</b> 	99%	1 hormone-releasing IUD currently available	Suggested length of use is 5 years or less	None	Once removed, fertility can return within a year	Health care professional inserts and removes IUD	Yes	No
<b>Vaginal Ring</b> 	99%	Only 1 type	Inserted monthly; left in place for 3 weeks. Not worn during Week 4	None	Once stopped, may take a few cycles before you can become pregnant	Must learn how to insert and remove	Yes	No

**To learn more about these methods, talk to your health care professional**



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