

There are bifocal and progressive lenses available in both soft and RGP types. Soft bifocal lenses are available in daily wear, extended wear and disposable modes. Some lenses give better near vision (typically bifocals) while others have sharper distance focus (usually progressive types).

One important point to remember is that no bifocal or progressive contact should be expected to make the vision as good as it was prior to the age of 40. In fact, it is unusual for bifocal wearers to see as well with their contacts as they do with their glasses. If you are interested in bifocal contacts, we will help you find the solution that best meets your needs.

Some patients may prefer to try monovision correction with their contact lenses. In monovision, the dominant eye is corrected for distance viewing with a contact lens and the non-dominant eye is focused for near or intermediate vision with a contact lens.



Bifocals, progressives or monovision do not work for everyone. If your distance vision, especially at night, is critical, these options may not work well for you. Additionally, if you require very good depth perception, you may not be an ideal candidate for bifocals, progressives or monovision. Discuss these options with us to decide what is best for your visual needs.

CONTACT LENS FEE SCHEDULE

Eye Health and Vision Examination _____
 Contact Lens Start Up Professional Fee _____
 Initial Contact Lens Materials _____
 Color Trial Fee _____
 Your Insurance Will Pay _____
 Your Net Start Up _____
 Lens Replacement Cost _____

**Should you encounter some unforeseen difficulties in adapting to your contact lenses and decide to discontinue with contact lens use, you may return your undamaged lenses (or unopened boxes of disposables) to us within 30 days of receipt, and we will refund the cost of the materials only.

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Which Contact Lens Type is Right for You?

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WHAT ARE CONTACT LENSES?

In contrast to eyeglasses, contact lenses are classified as a medical device and are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration like prescription drugs. Since they interact with the tissues of the human eye, they may alter the ocular environment and if fit poorly, can cause eye health complications. All of our doctors specialize in contact lens care and provide state of the art fitting and evaluation techniques to limit or eliminate the risk of serious health problems.

CONTACT LENS MATERIALS

Currently, there are two basic types of contact lens materials: soft (hydrogel) and RGP (rigid gas permeable). There are major differences in both types and we can select which one best suits your needs. The soft lens is the most commonly worn lens type today. It was developed in the 1960's and has seen many technological advances through the years. It is larger in diameter and much thinner than the RGP's and "drapes" itself over the cornea (clear front window of the eye) like a blanket. Initial comfort is usually good, vision is much improved and some lenses may be worn overnight.

RGP lenses were developed in the 1970's, are smaller in diameter than soft lenses and are thicker and stiffer. Each RGP lens is custom designed to match your eye's shape and "float" on the tear film of your eye. The vision is usually the sharpest with RGP's, and the lenses typically last for one to two years. Once you become adjusted to the lenses (usually about one week), the comfort is often better than any other lens type. These lenses can be used to correct virtually any focusing problem including astigmatism, progressive myopia (nearsightedness) in children, and presbyopia (the need for bifocals) in adults. For long term wear, these lenses are considered the healthiest as they allow the maximum amount of oxygen transmission into the cornea.

DO YOU NEED TORIC LENSES?

A toric lens is a specialty lens that is designed to correct excessive amounts of astigmatism. Toric lenses are available in both soft and RGP types, although only high degrees of astigmatism require a toric RGP, while mild to moderate amounts of astigmatism can be corrected with a spherical RGP lens.



WHICH MODE OF LENS WEAR IS BEST?

Contact lenses can be worn in many different modes including daily wear, extended wear and single-use. Daily wear means that the lenses are removed each night, cleaned, disinfected and stored overnight for reinsertion the next day. Extended wear is continuous wear through the night typically for up to 7 days. Extended wear can be done with either conventional (extended wear approved) lenses or disposable lenses, but **beware that sleeping in contacts increases the risk of corneal infection.** Single use lenses are used one time and then discarded. These lenses are usually marketed as 1-day or daily and typically come in supplies of 90.enses.



WHAT ABOUT BIFOCAL OR PROGRESSIVE CONTACT LENSES?

Patients over the age of 40 often lose their ability to focus on close objects. This usually requires the use of reading glasses, bifocals, progressives or the removal of distance glasses for reading. Remarkable technological advances have been made in recent years in the arena of bifocal contact lenses.