

# LASIK Frequently Asked Questions



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## ***Answers to Questions About Finances***

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Fees for the LASIK pre and post-op care, the facility and surgeon at Eye Center of Texas will be discussed by your optometrist. This fee covers your pre-LASIK evaluation, the LASIK surgical procedure and your prescribed post-LASIK care.

We accept all major credit cards. An employer flex plan can be used to pay for LASIK. The cost can be included as a medical expense when filing personal income taxes.

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## ***Answers to Questions About the Procedure Itself***

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LASIK is painless.

LASIK takes about 5 to 10 minutes for both eyes.

The laser vaporizes microscopic layers of tissue of the cornea (the front part of the eye) in a precise fashion to correct the vision abnormality..

No stitches are required with LASIK.

We use drops to anesthetize the eye – no injections are used.

Both eyes are done in the same day, in most cases.

LASIK has a 2% complication rate – and the vast majority of these complications are correctable with medication and/or an additional LASIK procedure.

No one has ever “gone blind” with LASIK.

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## ***Answers to Questions About Candidacy***

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Presently, the Federal Drug Administration has approved the laser for the treatment of Myopia, Hyperopia, Myopia with astigmatism and Hyperopia with astigmatism.

The laser does NOT treat:

Presbyopia (the need for reading glasses for individuals over age 40) unless "monovision" treatment is provided.

Dr. Wade will perform LASIK on patients 18 years old and older if their prescription has not changed in the past 12 months.

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***Answers to  
Questions About  
Care After LASIK***

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Vision may vary for the first six months following the procedure – this is the normal healing period.

Most people see very well the day following their LASIK and most can return to work 2-3 days after the procedure.

Prescription eye drops are used for one week following the procedure.

Patients are seen, at a minimum of 1<sup>st</sup> day, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> day, four weeks and four months following the procedure.

Patients over or near age 40 must understand that they may need reading glasses after LASIK – they will not be able to remove their glasses to read once their distance vision is corrected. Monovision for LASIK may eliminate the need for reading glasses. 95% of patients treated with LASIK have “driving vision” (can pass the driver’s test without glasses).

With few exceptions, usually having to do with the health of the eyes, we will provide free additional LASIK, if needed, for the first year following your LASIK. \$400 per eye is charged after the first year.

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***Answers to  
Questions About  
the Equipment  
Used in LASIK***

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We use a Visx Star S4 excimer laser.

The laser used is a “cool” laser – no heat is generated.

The laser has a wavelength of 192 nanometers.

Dr. Wade uses the Intralase laser to create the flap for LASIK.

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***Answers to  
Questions About  
Dr. Wade***

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Dr. Wade is a board certified ophthalmologist.

Dr. Wade has been performing refractive procedures since 1991.

Dr. Wade is known in Houston as “the Eye Doctor’s Doctor”. He receives patient referrals from over 250 Houston-area Eye Doctors and has treated many of these doctors and their families.