## Are you over 40? Facts to Know About Age-Related Vision Changes

We all have things to pay closer attention to after age 40. Maintaining sharp vision can help us continue to see and experience life to the fullest. The information below will help you speak with your eye care professional about natural age-related vision changes and how the right eyeglass lenses can help you maintain sharp vision.

- After age 40, almost all adults develop presbyopia a vision condition in which the crystalline lens of the eye loses its flexibility, making it difficult to focus on close objects.
- Presbyopia is a natural part of the eye's aging process.
- 3 Some signs of presbyopia include:
  - the tendency to hold reading materials farther away than before
  - blurred vision at normal reading distance
  - eye fatigue along with headaches when doing close-up work
- The aging cornea and lens in the eye become less clear causing light to scatter inside the eye, which increases glare and reduces contrast sensitivity

   the ability to discern subtle differences in brightness of objects making it harder to see at night.
- Age-related eye problems such as cataracts can develop slowly and you may be unaware that your vision is declining.

- To maintain sharp vision, you should have an eye exam annually after age 40. Early diagnosis as well as treatment of eye and vision problems are important for maintaining good vision and eye health, and when possible, preventing vision loss.
- An optometrist will determine the specific lenses that will allow you to see clearly and comfortably as presbyopia and cataracts can complicate other common vision conditions such as:
  - Nearsightedness –
     condition in which visual
     images come to a focus
     in front of the retina,
     causing blurry distance
     vision
  - Farsightedness –
     condition in which visual
     images come to a focus
     behind the retina making
     it more difficult for the
     eyes to focus on near
     objects
  - Astigmatism –
    condition in which the
    cornea's curvature is
    asymmetrical, so light
    rays are focused at two
    points rather than one,
    resulting in blurred vision





- To help you compensate for presbyopia and age-related vision changes, your optometrist can prescribe reading, single vision, bifocal, trifocal or progressive lenses.
- 9 Modern progressive lenses offer key advantages over bifocal and trifocal lenses. These lenses make sharp vision possible at all distances, without interruption of vision from one viewing distance to another, and without a visible line on the lens
- for you, based on your exact prescription, the frame you choose and even the way the eyewear fits your face, to give you the best vision possible.

More information about vision care and lenses can be found at www.better-vision.zeiss.com





