FAQ

**Permanent Eyeliner**

**HOW LONG DOES A PROCEDURE TAKE?**

Usually, each procedure appointment is one and a half to two hours. The majority of the time is spent in adequately consulting and selecting the appropriate color for your skin; in measuring and artistically drawing on the planned procedure prior to actually implanting the color; and allowing for the application of topical anesthetics. Complete after-care instructions will be reviewed verbally and then sent home in written copy form.

**CAN I HAVE EYELINER AND LIPS AND EYEBROWS ALL DONE AT ONCE?**

Yes, a full-face procedure will take 3-4 hours. In fact, one advantage is that your aftercare and healing time for all the areas is consolidated into the same time frame. However, some people choose to do the procedures as individual appointments, and some will do only brows and eyeliner and return for lips later, etc.

**IS IT THE SAME AS A TATTOO?**

It is a form of tattoo, although different techniques and pigments are used. Anytime color is implanted into the dermis of the skin, it is technically a tattoo, regardless of the manner in which it is performed.

**WHAT IS MICROPIGMENTATION?**

This is the name of the process used to implant color in permanent makeup. Many people refer to permanent makeup by fancy names such as micropigmentaton, dermal pigmentation etc. It is all correct, however, it truly is a tattoo process.

**IS THE PROCEDURE SAFE?**

Unlike many technicians that re-use or sterilize via an autoclave the various components of their equipment, we use all pre-packaged, sterile and disposable needles and needle casings.

We use medical-grade needles that are encased in a special permanent cartridge. This patented cartridge system contains an internal diaphragm that prevents any bodily fluids and airborne contaminants from entering into the system. This ensures that you will receive the safest, most sterile form of cosmetic tattooing available.

**ARE THERE OTHER HEALTH CONCERNS?**

There may be some situations where you would need medical clearance first. A thorough health history will be taken prior to your procedure. Any contraindications or medical alerts will be discussed prior to receiving the procedures. These situations are few and rare. It is advised that a doctor’s release be provided if you are under a physician’s care for certain ongoing medical conditions. There are a few skin disorders that prevent the application of permanent makeup.

**DOES IT HURT?**

 A topical anesthesia is used as needed to help numb the areas to be treated. This helps to alleviate any minor discomfort you may experience during the procedure. Everyone has their own unique level of pain tolerance. Some people feel that certain areas of the face are more sensitive than others, so special emphasis is put on making the client as comfortable as possible. A variety of topical anesthetics are on hand to ensure that your procedure is as pain-free as possible.

**HOW WILL I LOOK IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PROCEDURE?**

You may experience minor swelling and redness on procedure day. Some people swell more than others. The eyes can be sensitive and if you have allergies, very watery eyes or know you swell easily, it is advised that you take an over-the-counter anti-histamine such as Benadryl or similar prior to your procedure. Ice packs will help alleviate inflammation and can be used frequently for the first 24 hours. You may resume normal activities immediately except that you will be advised to wear no makeup directly on the treated area for about one week. See below for additional restrictions while healing. There is some minor redness, healing and peeling during the first week. Most clients resume their regular schedule, such as returning to work, the very next day. It is advised that for very special occasions or anytime you want to look your super-best that you allow one week of healing time.

**WHEN WILL I SEE THE FINAL RESULT?**

At first the pigment will appear too dark. There is an exfoliative process during the healing that allows for the surface layer of color to “peel” after 4-7 days. Once completely healed, you are actually viewing the color through the skin, not on the surface as with traditional cosmetics. You can expect that it will “heal, peel and fade” after about one week. The color is usually about 30-40% lighter when healed than it appears the day of the procedure. If the color looks perfect immediately after the procedure, it would be much too light when healed.

**IS IT REALLY PERMANENT? HOW LONG DOES IT LAST?**

Some people may need the color darkened within one to five years after the procedure. This is typically only about $100, since it is merely a re-coloring of any areas which may have lost color intensity.

**WHAT FACTORS AFFECT HOW LONG THE COLOR LASTS?**

The skill of the technician, the quality of the pigments used, the individual's skin type, how dark the original color is, sun exposure, and use of exfoliating skin-care products. First the color must be put into the dermis layer of the skin, if not, it will come off as soon as the epidermis goes through a normal shedding cycle. The sun, exfoliating products such as Retin-A, and regular swimming contribute to premature fading. Regular use of sunscreen will help prevent premature fading.  A soft brown eyeliner color will fade several months faster than a black eyeliner color.

**WHAT IS EYELASH ENHANCEMENT AND HOW IS IT DIFFERENT FROM EYELINER?**

For a more natural, less dramatic effect than is achieved with the look of full eyeliner, eyelash enhancement can be done. The color is implanted at the base of the lash line only. This procedure can even be done on men too and simply serves to define the eye lash line, make the lash base look fuller and more dense. This is great for those that don’t usually wear eyeliner but want the eyes to stand out more. All eyeliner starts with lash enhancement to color in the spaces between the eyelashes. The color is then widened until the preferred thickness is achieved.

**I AM USED TO WEARING A SOFT SMUDGED LOOK FOR EYELINER. CAN THIS BE ACHIEVED?**

Yes, the technique is adjusted to determine preference for either a soft “smudgy” look, or a clean straight crisp eyeliner style. Also, color layering can be done to achieve a darker line in and just above the lashes, fading into a lighter “wash” of color above the lash line.

**I DON’T USUALLY WEAR EYELINER ON MY LOWER LIDS. CAN I OPT FOR JUST UPPER LID EYELINER?**

Yes, personal preference dictates where the color is placed. You can have just upper or just lower eyeliner; or go with a darker liner on top and a softer, lighter color on the lower lids.

**CAN I WEAR MASCARA WHILE MY NEW EYELINER IS HEALING?**

No, you must refrain from wearing mascara and other eye makeup while in the healing stages. It is recommended that you discontinue the use of mascara for 7 days and then resume with a brand new mascara to prevent any possible contamination or infection. Wearing mascara during the healing process can contribute to possible infection and removal of the mascara during healing can interfere with color retention.

**I HAVE OR AM CONSIDERING HAVING EYELASH EXTENSIONS. WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR MIXING THE TWO PROCESSES?**

You must not be wearing any eyelash extensions during your permanent eyeliner procedure. You should wait at least 10 days or until full healing has taken place before having lashes put on.

**I AM CONSIDERING LASER VISION CORRECTION SURGERY. WHEN CAN I GET PERMANENT EYELINER?**

Either get your eyeliner done 2-3 weeks before your surgery, or you must then wait 3 months or until your doctor gives you the release to proceed with permanent eyeliner.

**I HAVE ALREADY HAD LASER VISION CORRECTION OR CATARACT SURGERY.  IS IT OK FOR ME TO GET PERMANENT EYELINER?**

Yes, you must be 3 months post surgery or have a release from your eye surgeon prior to that.

**I HAVE GLAUCOMA. CAN I GET PERMANENT EYELINER?**

You must have the form of glaucoma that does not require medication. If you use prescription medication for any eye condition, you must have a release in writing from your doctor.

**I MIGHT WANT TO GET COSMETIC SURGERY ON MY EYELIDS SOMEDAY. IF I HAVE PERMANENT EYELINER WILL THE LOOK CHANGE AFTER THE SURGERY?**

Permanent eyeliner should be placed only in the natural lash line and above. The outer corners should not be connected and you shouldn’t have tails or “wings” tattooed beyond the corners. If you do get eyelid surgery the natural lash line is not altered, only excess skin removed. Your eyeliner should remain intact even after the surgery.

**I WEAR CONTACT LENSES. HOW DOES THIS INTERACT WITH THE PERMANENT EYELINER PROCEDURE?**

You must remove lenses for the procedure and it is recommended that you wear glasses if possible for 2-3 days after. This is precautionary to prevent irritation and possible eye infections. If you need contacts to see and don’t have glasses you will need to keep them out the remainder of the day and have someone drive you home. With strict hygiene you may begin wearing them the next day.

**I AM USING ONE OF THE NEW PRODUCTS THAT PROMOTE EYELASH GROWTH. CAN I USE IT IF I HAVE EYELINER?**

You must discontinue temporarily while healing from the eyeliner procedure. It is recommended that you refrain from using the product for about 10 days or until you are sure that the procedure area is completely healed. There is no data that shows if these products influence premature fading of permanent eyeliner. I have been using a lash growth product for 2 years with no unfavorable fading or interactions.