

Sight Matters

FAQ Sheets

Polarized Lenses

Availability

Polarizing sunglass lens technology is now available in most prescriptions and lens designs - single vision, bifocals or progressives.

Popularity

Polarizing lenses are certainly a popular option with consumers. In a study conducted in 2005 with Surf Lifesavers in Australia and professional long-distance drivers in Ireland, polarising lenses were preferred by 70% of the lifesavers and 80% of the drivers.

Lens Performance

Modern polarizing lenses offer built-in safety and protection. They act on 3 different levels:

1. Stop Reflected Glare

Special molecules embedded in the lens eliminate reflected glare. Vision is crisp even while driving in bright sunlight; so there is no more squinting or fiddling with the visor. They also improve



Example of a scene with reflected glare



The same scene viewed through a polarized lens



performance for outdoor sports, because distracting, annoying sun-glare is stopped.

2. Sight Protection

UV Exposure is linked to long-term sight changes such as cataract and retinal damage like macular degeneration. Modern polarizing lenses provide eyes with 100% protection from the harmful effects of the sun's UV radiation.

3. Eye Protection

Most polarized lenses are no longer made from glass. They are either ophthalmic resin or polycarbonate, the most impact resistant lens material. This means that they are impact resistant and available in the safest lens materials.

Appearance

It is also possible to order polarizing lenses that are both thin and light. High index materials can be used to produce lenses that are up to 30% thinner (for better looking lenses) and 38% lighter than a conventional lens. Most also have the latest scratch resistant coating technology as a standard feature.