

## Laser Refractive Surgery

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At Buck and Todd optometrist we have seen many patients who have benefited from the results of Lasik Surgery. There are many factors the must investigated before pursuing such a procedure including your prescription, eye health and likely complications.

Some of the criteria that need to be met include:

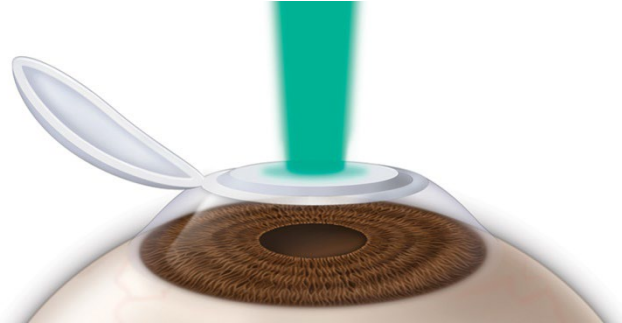
- 18 years of age or older
- Have maintained a stable prescription for a minimum of 2 years prior to surgery
- No significant medical issues, conditions or eye problems
- Not pregnant or breastfeeding

You must be over the age of 18 as like all other organs in the body, the eye can be subject to change due to hormonal changes from puberty. Undergoing Lasik surgery before puberty ends can reduce the long-term effects that would be gained after the age of 18. For some maintaining a regular prescription is difficult as their vision quality fluctuates frequently. Something to keep in mind is that some prescriptions may sit outside the limits of the Lasik treatments abilities so it's always best to discuss your options with your optometrist. If you are experiencing any eye health issues Lasik unfortunately isn't for you. Conditions like glaucoma, keratoconus, macular degeneration and corneal ulcers will not be fixed or benefit from this procedure and need to be treated by your optometrist or ophthalmologist another way. Similar to teenagers going through puberty, pregnant women have hormonal changes that will affect their vision and the outcome of the surgery.



We endeavour to provide each individual patient the best advice and information when seeking laser vision correction and recommend doing your own research before going forward. Now while it is common to return to work and normal activities within a few days, the full recovery time for Lasik surgery can be between 3-6 months. You also have to keep up with administering eye drops throughout the day and using sunglasses when outside (first month post op).

Lasik surgery usually consists for 4 steps. Firstly the surgeon creates a thin flap in your Cornea then the cornea is corrected with an Excimer Laser. Once finished with the laser, the flap is moved back into place. The procedure usually takes 10 minutes per eye and full vision recovery post operation is between a few hours to a few days. Other than numbing solutions, you will be awake for the entire Lasik corrective surgery.



In summary, though laser eye surgery has its benefits we at Buck and Todd recommend doing your research and discussing your options with your optometrist. We strive to provide the best quality service and health care possible, and fully investigate your vision and whether you would be eligible for Lasik surgery if so desired.