

Progressive Lens (No-Line Bifocal) vs. Line Bifocal

Advantages

- No sudden “image jump” from distance to near.
- An infinite number of focal points to view objects at different distances.
- No visible line where the bifocal power begins.
- More natural vision for near viewing.
- A variety of lens designs to fit virtually any application.

Disadvantages

- Requires a short period of adaptation to progressive lens for first-time wearers.
- Costs more than a regular bifocal.

Progressive lenses, or “no-line” bifocals, are increasing in popularity because of the advantages they offer to wearers of regular “lined” bifocals, along with the many lens designs now available. In addition, the advancements in progressive lens technology have helped reduce their cost over time.

From a safety standpoint, the main reason we recommend that a company cover the cost of progressive lenses for their employees is that many people already wear them in their “street” glasses, and adjusting back to a line bifocal for their daily safety wear can be very difficult, and possibly dangerous. As an individual adjusts back to a line bifocal, their ability to see near objects clearly may be inhibited. This can create a safety hazard, and may also interfere with the quality of their work.

Most companies have found that the additional cost of providing progressive lenses to their employees is outweighed by the many advantages, including increased safety and employee satisfaction.

While progressive lenses are preferred by most people, some are unable to adapt to wearing these lenses comfortably. This is mainly due to slight distortions at the peripheral areas of the bifocal, caused by the “blending” of the bifocal. For most people, this is not a concern, but for those that cannot adjust to this, a regular line bifocal may be the best option.

A variety of progressive lens products are available, including options to fit your budget. Your Optician or Sales Representative can help you make the right choice based on your needs.

Please contact your U.S. Safety Representative or U.S. Safety Customer Support at 800-821-5218 for more information.