GUEST • MALACH
EYE SPECIALISTS

# What is a Refraction?

## What is a refraction?

A refraction is a test that determines the lens prescription that gives you your clearest possible vision. During the test, you look through an instrument called a phoropter while we ask questions such as, “Which is better, one or two?”

## Why is it important?

A refraction helps your doctor determine whether blurred vision or vision changes are due to a change in your glasses prescription or an eye condition such as a cataract. It is an important part of evaluating your vision, even if you do not plan to purchase new glasses.

## Why is a refraction required for cataract evaluations?

At Guest Malach Eye Specialists, a refraction is required during a cataract evaluation to determine whether you qualify for cataract surgery. It helps document your best-corrected vision and whether changing your glasses prescription adequately improves your sight. The refraction is one part of the evaluation; your doctor will also consider your symptoms, examination findings, and applicable insurance criteria when determining whether surgery is appropriate.

## Will insurance cover it?

Medicare generally does not cover refraction, and many other insurance plans also exclude it. Even when a medical eye examination or cataract evaluation is covered, the refraction may be a separate, patient-paid service.

## What is the cost?

Our refraction fee is $68. If your insurance covers the service, your financial responsibility may be different. Our team can help explain the expected charge before the test.

Thank you for trusting Guest Malach Eye Specialists with your eye care. We are always happy to answer your questions.

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