

WORKING WITH DRILL MOUNT FRAMES

Key Points

Lens Materials – Polycarbonate is the most highly recommended lens material due to the strength and durability. Polycarbonate is the least likely lens material to chip or break and the drill holes do not stretch out. Polycarbonate also has a wide range of lens style availability. Another lens material that works very well is the Younger Trilogy. This new lens is a combination of Poly and Mid-Index. It is just as impact resistant as Poly but has the visual acuity of mid index. This lens is ideal for sunglasses due to the materials absorption of tint along the edges. Trilogy is only available in single vision or the Younger Image progressive. If you are looking for a high index material the Seiko 1.67 is the best option. It is available in single vision and the Proceed Progressive in clear or Transitions. If you use plastic or mid index materials in a drill mount the patient is more likely to experience chipping, breaking or loosening of the screw mounts.

Lens Designs – Most all lens designs will work well with drill mounts. The one thing you need to be aware of is the “B” measurement or vertical height of the lens shape when fitting a multi-focal lens. There must be enough room to fit the reading area of the lens design into the lens area. With a progressive, dot the pupils on the demo lens and then place the dots on a cut out chart to see if there is enough height and that the nasal area does not cut away the reading area. If you have a height of 17mm to 20mm then you should consider using a Progressive design that is intended for small frames. The same applies for a bi or tri focal. Also be sure to pre-adjust the frame before taking the segment height measurements.

Frame Adjustments – Always support the lens around the screw hole when making frame adjustments. Use the appropriate pliers that fit over the screw and nut to firmly support the mounting area while you make the frame adjustments. Another area that should also be supported is the end-piece while you are adjusting the temples.

Lens Enhancements – When tinting a polycarbonate lens in a drill mount, the edges of the lens will not tint. Only the front and back surface of the lens will tint so there will be a white ring around the edges. An alternative would be to use Trilogy or Seiko 1.67. If you edge polish the lens, there will be an increase of reflections coming from the edge surface. To help reduce the reflections it is recommended to put an AR coating on the lenses.

