

To Measure for a Bifocal Lens

If a patient is currently wearing bifocals, ask the following questions:

- Do you experience any problems seeing with your bifocals?
- Do you have to tilt your head back to read?
- Do you have to lower your chin to see objects in the distance?
- Are you having any problems easily seeing objects 2-3 feet away?
- Do you use a computer?

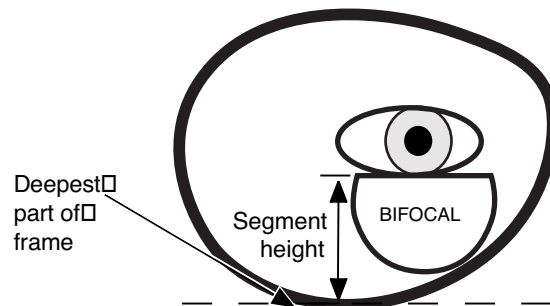
Based on the responses, you will determine whether you need to raise or lower the patient's current bifocal height. Or you may determine that bifocal lenses are not the best solution for this patient. Progressive lenses or a second pair of glasses just for computer work may be the best recommendations.

If a patient is satisfied with their current bifocal height, mark and measure the new bifocal at the same height in relation to the patient's face (ie. lower lid margin, bottom of lashes). If it is a first-time bifocal wearer, the bifocal segment should be placed at the lower lid. Always measure from the top of the bifocal lens to the **deepest** part of the frame.

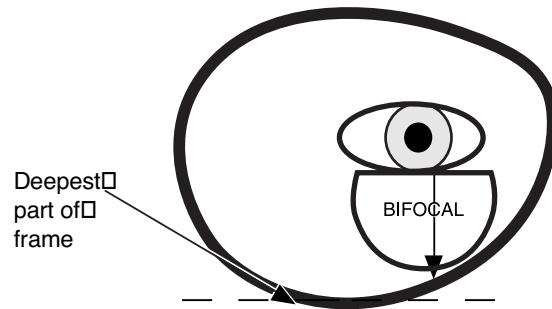
The actual measurement, in millimeters, will be different for different frames.

Bifocal Measurement Examples

Correct measurement:

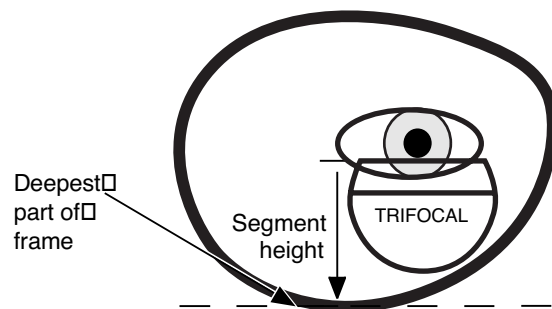


Incorrect measurement: (Not measuring to the deepest portion of the frame)



To Measure for a Trifocal Lens

When measuring for a trifocal lens, follow the same steps as for a bifocal lens. Measure from the top of the trifocal to the deepest portion of the frame.



If this is the patient's first trifocal, mark and measure 2-3 mm higher than their previous bifocal height.

General Guidelines for Fitting Lined Multifocals

Segment Placement

Notice the natural head position of the patient while seated and standing.

Make certain you are at eye level with the patient.

Current Wearers

Be observant!

Look at the patient's spectacles.

What type of lenses are they wearing?

Where are the bifocal or trifocal segments in relation to a reference point of either the patient's pupils, eyelids, or facial features?

Placement

Remember the current segment placement.

Place the adjusted frame on the patient.

Verify the placement as compared to the patient's old eyewear.

The new segment should be positioned using the same reference point.

Measurement

Remove the frames and, using a PD ruler, measure the segment height from the top of the segment to the deepest point of the frame.

This procedure should be followed with every lined multifocal patient to insure proper placement of their lenses.