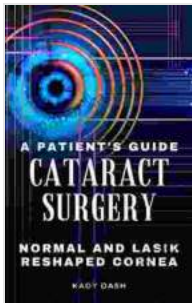


# Patient Guide to Cataract Surgery: Everything You Need to Know

## What are cataracts?

Cataracts are a clouding of the lens of the eye. The lens is a clear, flexible structure that helps focus light on the retina, the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye. When the lens becomes cloudy, it can interfere with vision, making it difficult to see clearly.



## A Patient's Guide to Cataract Surgery: Normal and LASIK Reshaped Cornea by Kady Dash

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 4281 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 78 pages  
Lending : Enabled



Cataracts are a common condition, especially in older adults. In fact, by age 80, more than half of all Americans have cataracts.

## What causes cataracts?

The exact cause of cataracts is not always known. However, there are a number of risk factors that can increase your chances of developing cataracts, including:

\* Age \* Diabetes \* Smoking \* Prolonged exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation \* Certain medications, such as steroids \* Previous eye surgery

### **What are the symptoms of cataracts?**

The most common symptom of cataracts is blurred vision. Other symptoms may include:

\* Double vision \* Glare \* Difficulty seeing at night \* Fading colors \* Seeing halos around lights

### **How are cataracts diagnosed?**

Cataracts are diagnosed with a comprehensive eye exam. During the exam, your doctor will dilate your pupils and examine your eyes with a special microscope.

### **How are cataracts treated?**

The only effective treatment for cataracts is surgery. Cataract surgery is a relatively simple procedure that can be performed on an outpatient basis. During surgery, the cloudy lens is removed and replaced with a clear artificial lens.

### **What are the risks of cataract surgery?**

Cataract surgery is a very safe procedure. However, as with any surgery, there are some risks involved, including:

\* Infection \* Bleeding \* Swelling \* Glaucoma \* Retinal detachment

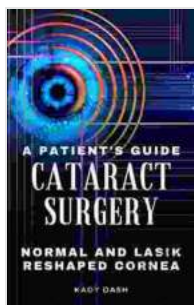
The risks of cataract surgery are very small, and the vast majority of patients experience no complications.

## What are the benefits of cataract surgery?

Cataract surgery can significantly improve vision and quality of life. After surgery, patients may experience:

\* Improved vision \* Reduced glare \* Increased ability to see at night \*  
Brighter colors

Cataract surgery is a safe and effective procedure that can restore vision and improve quality of life. If you are experiencing symptoms of cataracts, talk to your doctor about whether surgery is right for you.



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