

## EYEGLOSS PRESCRIPTION GLOSSARY / ABBREVIATIONS

OD - This is shorthand for oculus dextraous which means Right Eye.

OS - This is shorthand for oculus sinister which really means Left Eye.

OU - This is shorthand for oculus uterque which really means Both Eyes. If you see this, you'll want to enter the prescription the same on both eyes.

SPHERE OR POWER - SPH or PWR - This is the main strength of your eyeglass prescription, and is written in 0.25 increments. If the field has 'SPH', 'PL', 'PLANO', or '00', this means your there is a 0.00 power as should be entered as so. CVS/pharmacy Optical can create lenses for prescriptions with Sphere ranges between -20.00 and +20.00.

PLANO - PL - This indicates there is no spherical correction in this eye. A plano lens would have no focusing power or correction to it.

BALANCE - This indicates there is no vision correction in this eye. It's a non-prescription lens and is used when only one of your eyes requires vision correction

CYLINDER - CYL - This indicates the amount of astigmatism, and is written in 0.25 increments. Not all prescriptions have a cylinder correction, and some prescriptions have a cylinder correction in only one eye. If you don't have an astigmatism correction then your doctor may leave this field blank, or they may put 'SPH', 'DS', 'Plano', or '00' in this field. This means you do not have an astigmatism correction in one or both eyes. CVS/pharmacy Optical can create lenses for prescriptions with Cylinder ranges between -5.00 and +5.00. Positive (+) Cylinder values will be converted into negative (-).

AXIS - AX or X - This is also part of the astigmatism correction, and is written in increments of 1 (one). If there is no cylinder, then there should be no axis. Since it's a degree/angle, it will be represented as a value between 1 and 180. If there is no cylinder, it's possible that the doctor might enter 0, but this would just indicate that there is no axis. CVS/pharmacy Optical can create lenses for prescriptions with ADD ranges between +0.25 and +3.00.

ADD - This is a value that is commonly used for bifocal or progressive lenses, as well as reading glasses. It indicates how much power gets added to the distance Rx to create the reading-only Rx; or as it applies to the glasses you'll order from CVS/pharmacy Optical, it determines the correction strength for the bottom half of your bifocals progressive lenses. It is written in increments of 0.25. an opticaian can create lenses for prescriptions with ADD ranges between +0.25 and +3.00.

PRISM or BASE or BASE CURVE - A prism is used when both eyes are not properly aligned and they need a prism to re-align them. The Base is the rotation of the prism. These fields are rarely used, and the correction type is not currently

offered on CVS/pharmacy Optical eyeglasses. There are two separate parts to a Prism correction. The first part is the diopter strength (e.g. 2.0) and the second is the direction (e.g. BU). There are four different directions. Base-Up (BU), Base-Down (BD), Base-In (BI), and Base-Out (BO).

PUPILLARY DISTANCE - PD - This is the distance in millimeters between your right pupil and left pupil.

SEGMENT HEIGHT or SEG HEIGHT - SH - This is the vertical measurement in millimeters from the bottom of the lens to the beginning of the progressive addition on a progressive lens, or the top line of a lined bifocal. Segment height does not apply to Single Vision lenses. You will need the frame to be able to measure segment height because you can only measure it while the glasses are on your head.

NEAR VISION or NEAR VISION ONLY - NV or NVO - This is written when your doctor is recommending reading-only glasses. (This is also known as farsighted)

DISTANCE VISION or DISTANCE VISION ONLY - DV or DVO - This is written when your doctor is recommending distance-only glasses. (This is also known as myopia or nearsighted)

ASTIGMATISM - An optical condition that can cause blurry vision. This is corrected by a Cylinder and Axis correction on a prescription.

BINOCULAR - A term used to describe the simultaneous use of both eyes at the same time.

MONOCULAR - Refers to only one eye.

OCULUS DEXTER (OD) - Latin for right eye

OCULUS SINISTER (OS) - Latin for left eye

OCULUS UTERQUE (OU) - Latin for both eyes

PROGRESSIVE ADDITIVE LENS - PAL - The ADD value specifically for progressive lenses.

In short, these terms are abbreviations for the phrases "oculus dexter" and "oculus sinister," which respectively mean "right eye" and "left eye" in Latin. In some rare cases, your prescription may also include a column labeled "OU," an abbreviation for the term "oculus uterque," which in Latin means "both eyes."

#### WHAT ARE THE OTHER TERMS ON YOUR EYEGLOSS PRESCRIPTION?

Now that you understand what the two rows are on your prescription, the next step in understanding your glasses prescription is knowing what those other five columns are for. Typically, you'll see several abbreviations and words labeling each of these columns. These words and abbreviations are explained in more detail below:

#### SPHERE (SPH):

The term "sphere" is essentially the degree of correction needed to correct your near or farsightedness.

#### CYLINDER (CYL):

The number indicates the lens power needed to correct astigmatism in your eyes.

#### AXIS:

The axis indicates the orientation of astigmatism, measured in degrees from 1 to 180. The number ranges from 1 to 180, with the number 90 corresponding to the vertical meridian of the eye and 180 corresponding to the horizontal meridian of the eye. If you do not have astigmatism and do not have a cylinder power on your prescription slip, you will not have an axis number, either.

#### PRISM:

A prism number indicates the amount of prismatic power, measured in diopters, needed to compensate for any alignment problems in your eyes.

#### BASE:

This will either appear in a column of its own or be included in the prism column. This column indicates the direction of a prism by noting the relative position of its thickest edge.

If the base is directed upwards, the column will read "BU," "base up" or simply "up." If the base is directed down, it will read "BD," "base down" or "down." If the base is directed toward the wearer's nose, the column will read "BI," "base in" or "in." If the base points away from the wearer's nose and toward the ear, the column will read "BO," "base out" or "out."

#### ADD or NV:

The number associated with either of these terms indicates the additive power needed to correct your immediate near vision if your prescription is primarily for distance correction.

#### PUPILLARY DISTANCE (PD)

This number indicates the distance from the center of one pupil to the center of the other, and is an important number for lens customization.