

## MAKING AN ARTIFICIAL EYE

### Taking Impressions

Soft alginate material is used to obtain an accurate impression of the eye socket. This process lays the foundation for optimal comfort, appearance and motility of the eye.

### First Laboratory Process

During this stage, a plaster impression of the template shape is formed. The mould will be used as a foundation for the final shape.

### Iris Painting

The iris is hand painted onto a slightly curved plastic disc. High quality acrylic paints are used to maximise the three dimensional effect, creating a more realistic appearance. As many as twenty or more coats of paint are used to create all the striations of colour found in the human iris. Once dry, the coloured iris is then fused into white acrylic.

### Veining

Tiny red fibres are cemented onto the surface of the eye (Sclera) to simulate the vein pattern in the retained eye. Scleral tones ranging from pink, grey, blue and yellow are then added to ensure the artificial eye matches the retained eye.

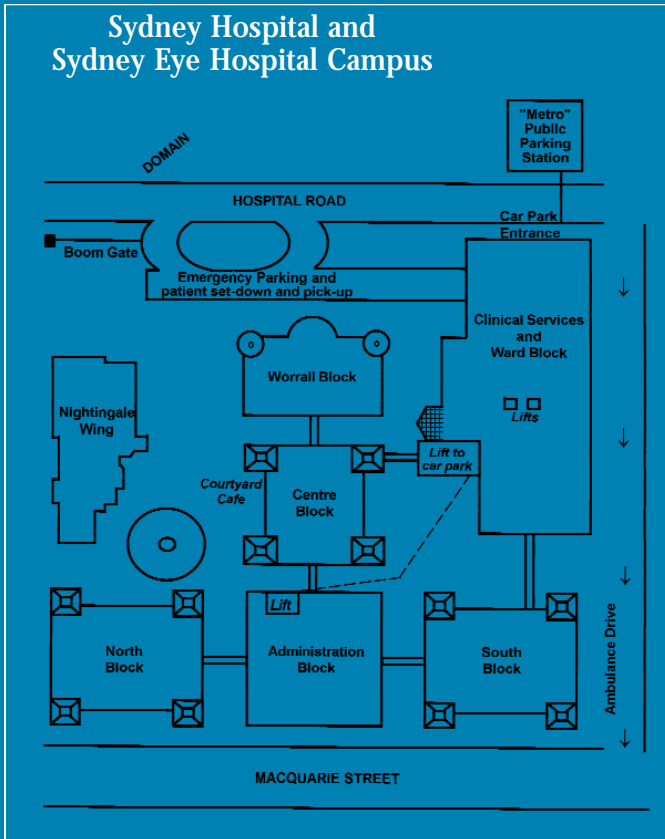
### Second Laboratory Process

Finally, the entire eye is covered with a thin layer of clear plastic which smoothes the surface, seals in the veins and gives the appearance of a corneal dome found on the human eye. Once cured, the eye is polished to a smooth lustre, and the final fitting of the eye takes place.



## HOW TO FIND US

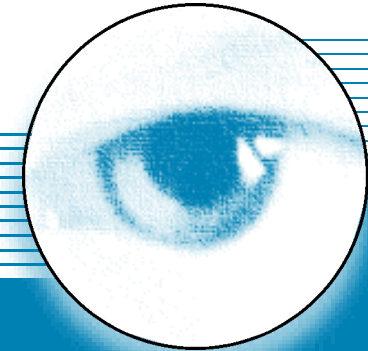
Sydney Artificial Eyes is located in the ground floor of the Nightingale wing at Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital.



Sydney Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital

# sydney artificial eyes

(Formerly Taylor and Trefry Sales)  
Makers of fine eye prosthetics since 1945



**SOUTH EAST HEALTH**  
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Sydney Artificial Eyes has been serving the community since 1945, and has established a reputation for detail and precision within this specialist industry. Our eye makers are highly experienced in all aspects of artificial eye making, and the professional manner in which the service is provided ensures our clients are thoroughly satisfied.

Sydney Artificial Eyes offers a free initial consultation, and provides a customised and personalised service to meet the special needs of our clients. We encourage first time eye-wearers to visit the eye maker for an introductory talk, to alleviate any fears and misconceptions.

### Our commitment to quality

The making of an artificial eye is a unique craft with each eye being custom made for the individual. The latest sophisticated aids available in this field are used to produce a natural looking prosthesis that is becoming and comfortable to wear. Sydney Artificial Eyes are experienced in making artificial eyes for both adults and children, and perform all procedures in close consultation with the treating Ophthalmologist.

### Getting used to your new artificial eye

The loss of an eye does not have to result in the loss of a normal lifestyle. In the immediate period following the loss of an eye, some difficulty with sight will occur, however, before long the remaining eye will develop depth perception, allowing the resumption of almost all activities that were being enjoyed with two eyes.

Wearing an artificial eye allows our clients to quickly return to a normal lifestyle. Getting used to wearing an artificial eye only takes a few days. During this time, some clients may experience extra tear secretions but this is a temporary condition that will return to normal within a couple of weeks.

### Initial visits to your eyemaker

Unless otherwise advised by a doctor, the first visit to the eye maker should occur between 8-10 weeks after the operation. During this visit, the Eye Maker will gather details from the existing eye such as the size, shape and colour, for use during the design and production of the artificial eye.

At Sydney Artificial Eyes we take great care to match the artificial eye as closely as possible to the existing eye. The new eye is fitted during the second visit, then minor adjustments are made once the client has become accustomed to the new eye to ensure optimum comfort and appearance in a subsequent visit.

Follow up appointments may be required over the next 12 months to accompany any socket changes that may occur. The number of visits will depend on the magnitude of the socket changes experienced.

On average, revisits are required 6 weeks after the final fitting for adjustment and once again within the first 12 month period. A new artificial eye will be made after 12 months, and this eye will last approximately 5 years.

### Types of artificial eyes

There are various types of artificial eyes available, however the type used will depend of the needs of the client. The two main types of artificial eyes are:

- ◆ Fully molded eye, which is made from an accurate impression of the eye socket
- ◆ Custom made reform eye

Cosmetic cover shells (Haptic Shell) can also be made to conceal blind eyes.

Sydney Artificial Eyes holds the patent for the lightweight prosthetic "Hollow Eye".

Staff at Sydney Artificial Eyes are also proficient in the Titanium Peg placement procedure which is used with the Hydroxyapatite (HA) Orbital Implant if required.

### How often should the eye be removed?

An artificial eye is designed to be worn at all times, day and night. The eye should only be removed if it needs cleaning or is causing discomfort. Continued removal of the eye can result in mild tissue irritation and tear secretions.

### Inserting and removing the eye

Artificial Eyes can be removed and inserted easily. To insert the eye, the upper eyelid is raised with the thumb or forefinger, while the artificial eye is placed underneath the upper lid using the other hand. The lower lid is then extended, which allows the eye to slip into place within the eye socket.

The artificial eye can be removed by depressing the lower lid, which enables the lower edge of the eye to slide out and down, although some clients prefer to use a suction cup to facilitate this process. Suction cups can be purchased from Sydney Artificial Eyes

This procedure is fully explained to all clients during their visit to Sydney Artificial Eyes.

### Cleaning the eye

Clients will need to revisit the eye maker every 6 months to have the eye thoroughly cleaned and polished. Cleaning will remove a build up of protein deposits on the surface of the eye, which cannot be removed with ordinary cleaning. Toothpaste applied to a finger can be used to finger polish the eye.

### Care of the eye socket

It is important that the eye socket is cleaned regularly, whenever excess discharge is being experienced. After removing the eye, the socket should be bathed with saline solution.

Never use cotton wool to clean the eye or your socket as fibres may deposit in the socket causing irritation.

### Eye Secretions

Provided that the eyelid has not been damaged, tears should flow normally over the artificial eye. The amount of secretion produced will vary according to the individual. Increased secretion may also be experienced with a head cold, in windy or extreme weather conditions, when overtired or if scratches or protein build up are present on the surface of the artificial eye.

