

Eye-opening techniques

Recent advances in vision correction mean more choices for people who hate their glasses but have hesitations about LASIK. Give these new options a gander. —Kristin Kane

You may be able to ditch the specs after all.

	HOW IT WORKS	CONSIDER IF	COST
Even-longer-wear contact lenses	Silicone material lets more oxygen into eyes, so you can wear lenses up to a month straight.	You're the type to wear your one-week lenses for two or three weeks at a time.	Prices vary widely, but six pairs are about \$150.
Contacts for dry-as-the-Sahara eyes	Modified hydrogel lenses don't draw moisture from naturally dry peepers.	Your eyes don't make enough tears to wear normal contacts and you don't want surgery.	Six pairs are about \$60. Lenses should be replaced every two to four weeks.
Epi-LASIK	The blade cuts the cornea less deeply than in standard procedures.	You have dry eyes. It won't sever the deeper corneal nerves that stimulate tears.	About \$1,700 per eye, the same price as traditional LASIK
IntraLase LASIK	It uses a laser instead of a blade to cut the cornea and has a shorter recovery time.	You're a knifephobe who doesn't want a scalpel coming near your eyes.	Approximately \$2,200 per eye (about \$500 more than standard LASIK)
Wavefront-guided LASIK	A computer map of the eye is used to perform a super customized surgery.	You want the BMW of surgeries—a guided laser can correct vision even more precisely.	Approximately \$2,000 per eye (about \$300 more than standard LASIK)