

Rhinoplasty

Nose surgery (Rhinoplasty) is a procedure to reshape the nose in order to create a more pleasing look and, in some instances, to correct severe breathing problems. With approximately 400,000 operations performed each year, rhinoplasty is considered the most popular cosmetic procedure in the United States.

Reasons for Considering Nose Surgery:

- Bring a better proportion to the nose and facial features.
- Reduce the size of the nose that is too large or too wide.
- Correct an overly arched or “Roman” nose.
- Re-form a crooked or elongated nose tip.
- Restore the nose if damaged from an accident or sports injury.
- Help with breathing problems by rebuilding the nasal passage.
- Treat nasal deformities caused at birth.

Note: If rhinoplasty is being utilized to correct a breathing problem or nose deformity, the procedure may be covered under the patient’s insurance policy.

Procedure: Lasts from 1-3 hours. The surgeon may elect to utilize either local or general anesthesia, depending upon the complexity of the operation.

Recovery: Any noticeable swelling will disappear within a few weeks. A splint, bandages, and/or gauze are applied immediately following surgery to aid in the healing process and to minimize movement of the nose. Patients must refrain from smoking for several weeks before and after the surgery. In addition, any corrective glasses that are worn must be taped up and off the nose. The nose will need to be well protected from the sun for the first year after the procedure while the body is adjusting to the new look. Patients sometimes report minor pain associated with the surgery. Pain can be effectively treated with oral medication and/or cold compresses.

Back to work: 3 to 7 days. More strenuous activity: 2 to 3 weeks. Swelling and bruising: 3 to 6 months