## My experience is no – not without blurring the vision in that part of the glass. However this is what the experts say if you wish to try it. (Editors note)

## How Do I Remove Scratches from Eyeglasses?

Most people think buying scratch-resistant eye glasses means never having to deal with scratched lenses, but with improper care, all lenses will scratch, even those made of glass. When lens scratches begin to interfere with vision, people may ask their eye care professional how best to remove them. They are usually told the scratches cannot be removed and new lenses are necessary. Although this is especially true for glass lenses, plastic lens scratches can sometimes be repaired by some do-it-yourself remedies.

The most popular remedy for plastic lens scratches is a glass-etching product called Armor Etch. Armor Etch removes the anti-glare and anti-scratch coatings on plastic lenses, leaving the original plastic lens intact. Because it is a glass-etching chemical, it does not affect plastic but must not be used on glass lenses. Other abrasive products like cleansers also remove the lens coatings without harming the original plastic lens beneath. Care must be taken to not change the thickness of the surface as it is cleaned and polished. Any product or procedure that changes the surface of an eyeglass lens can also change the refraction and effectiveness of that lens.

Those who do not wish to purchase new lenses have found an assortment of remedies in addition to Armor Etch. A popular and heavily advertised scratch repair product called Lens Dr. is a temporary scratch filler that lessens the visibility of the scratches, but leaves a glossy film on the lenses.

Products like Brasso, Lemon Pledge, and Dutch cleanser can also polish the scratches from lenses. Some people use baby oil, Comet cleanser, baking soda, or toothpaste. A product called Whinks works on some lenses, as does Carnauba cleaner wax and Mess Master. Light scratches can also be buffed out with a nail buffer. Waxy products like Lemon Pledge and Carnauba actually fill light scratches with wax, reducing their visibility. The wax treatment has to be repeated every few days. Rubbing alcohol or diluted ammonia are often used to clean scratched lenses. Polishing with a soft cloth, preferably one made specifically for cleaning eyeglass lenses, should be used after any of the treatments.

Application of hydrofluoric acid to scratched lenses is the most efficient means of removing scratched lens coatings, but the acid is hard to find and must be used with gloves. It also must not be used indoors.

The best solution is proper preventive care of eye glasses, whether they are made of plastic or glass. Storing eye glasses in a sturdy, cushioned eyeglass case is the first step in prevention of scratches. This means the eye glasses should never be placed in a pocket or purse without a protective covering. Never use facial tissues or paper towels to clean lenses, as these products will scratch the lenses. Clean lenses every day with soapy water and dry with a soft, clean cloth, preferably one made for that purpose. Do not clean with soaps containing anti-bacterial products or hand creams. Know that some products including household cleaners, acetone (nail polish remover), perfume, and hairspray can harm lens coatings.

## http://www.glassescrafter.com/information/remove-scratches-from-eyeglasses.html

## How to Remove Scratches on Eye Glasses

If your eye glasses are scratched, there's no need to discard them. There are many ways to remove scratches without causing further damage. Many of these methods require nothing more than materials found around the house.

Use a cotton or soft wool cloth with a little non-abrasive toothpaste to quickly buff away scratches on eye glasses. Rub the lens gently, moving the cloth in small circles. Continue this motion for around ten seconds. Rinse with cold water and wipe dry.

For a very stubborn scratch, you may have to repeat the process. Continue until the scratch is completely removed. If you have an anti-scratch coating on your eye glasses, you may have to rub this off completely first. This will not damage the lens but will make it more difficult to get to the scratch.

Baking soda may also be used in this way. Make a thick paste from baking soda and water. Then, apply the paste with a soft cotton or wool cloth and rub gently in a circular motion. Rinse and wipe the lens dry. Again, the process may have to be repeated for deep or stubborn scratches.

Scratches on plastic eye glasses can be remedied by using Armor Etch, a glass etching compound. The active ingredient, Hydrofluoric Acid, removes the outer coating on plastic lenses. It should never be used on glass as it can damage the lenses further. For plastic eye glasses, simply place a thick coating of the compound onto each side of the lens. Allow the glasses to sit for five minutes. Rinse and wipe dry. Do not rub the compound into the lenses. The Armor Etch will remove the outer coating and any scratches along with it.

Another commercial product that works well for removing scratches from eye glasses is vehicle cleaning wax. Although it's often used to polish automobiles, it can also fill in and remove scratches on glass and plastic eye glasses. Apply with a soft clean cloth and gently buff until the scratches have been removed. You may need to use several cloths as the wax adheres easily to fabric.

Windshield water repellants can also be used to remove scratches on eye glasses. They have the added bonus of repelling dirt and moisture, and preventing the glasses from fogging up during temperature changes. Simply apply with a soft cloth and polish gently for a few seconds. This treatment is best for superficial blemishes and may not be effective for deep, penetrating scratches.

Brass polish will remove scratches from plastic lenses but should not be used on glass. Apply with a cotton cloth and buff for several minutes. Rinsing isn't necessary. Simply use a clean cloth to remove any excess polish from the eye glasses. Silver polish may also be used in the same manner.

These methods will remove scratches on eye glasses but should be used with care. Make sure to wear gloves and read all manufacturer handling instructions before using any of these products. Never use any abrasive solution on glass, or you risk causing severe damage to the lenses.

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Before using any product to remove a scratch on your eyeglasses, test on a small corner of the lens first.

Use a lens cleaner, either from your optometrist or from a CD cleaning kit. This works best to remove minor scratches on eyeglasses.

Try a metal polish and a soft cloth, rubbing in a circular pattern for about 5 minutes, depending on the severity of the scratches. It may take several applications, so continue to polish until you achieve the results you desire. Rinse the glasses in soapy water to remove any residue when finished.

Rub on creams made for taking scratches from sports helmets. You can find the cream in most <u>sporting goods</u> stores.

Drop a small amount of baby oil onto the lenses and rub with a soft cloth. Again, this may take time and

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• Hold the buffer firmly in one hand and press the bar of jewelers rouge polishing compound against the center of the polishing pad to apply it. Hold the jewelers rouge bar steady for approximately three to five seconds.

Place the polishing pad onto the surface of the glass <u>window</u> and increase the rotation speed to medium.

Move the buffer slowly across the surface of the glass in a circular motion, concentrating on the scratched areas. Continue polishing the glass until the scratches are removed.

Pour the ammonia and water into a bowl. Put on rubber gloves and dip a cloth into the solution. Squeeze out the cloth so that it is wet but not soaking.

Wipe the entire surface of the glass window with the cloth to remove all traces of the jewelers rouge and to restore the shine to the glass.

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