

## Permanent Makeup FAQ's

1. **What is permanent makeup?** Permanent makeup is a process *similar* to tattooing, but with pigment rather than ink. Pigment is an ingredient found in traditional make up products, such as eyeliner and lipstick. Pigment is implanted into the epidermis with a needle or a series of needles. Once healed, it is then considered permanent. It is hypoallergenic and very few people have a reaction to pigments.
2. **Does it hurt?** Everyone has different tolerances to pain. A topical anesthetic is applied for the client's comfort; however there may be some pain or discomfort for the first few minutes at the beginning of the process while the anesthesia starts to work. A dose of Tylenol is recommended 30 minutes prior to procedure to help elevate any potential pain and discomfort of the procedure.
3. **How long does it take to heal?** The healing process can vary from individual to individual, but generally 7-10 days is the average healing time. During this time, it is important to keep the area dry, and covered with ointment. Exercise, hot tub, pool, sauna, and other strenuous activities that causes sweating or includes exposure to water is prohibited. Exposure to sweat and water can lead to infection and/or the loss of the pigment.
4. **Why is it expensive?** Licensing with the state of New Mexico is expensive. Multiple licenses and annual training in permanent make up is required to maintain licensure. This training is expensive because of the nature of the process. It is up to the consumer to research and find a technician who not only follows state and federal laws, such as OSHA and regulations, but also has the appropriate training, licenses, and certifications.
5. **What if I don't like it?** Skin resurfacing treatments, such as microdermabrasion, chemical peels, and heavy exfoliation can remove *most* of the pigment. The technician should be able to sketch and draw a template, giving the consumer a better idea of how the final results will look like.
6. **How long will the pigment last?** Pigment retention in the skin is different for everyone. Factors include, age, skin type, before and after care of the pigment during and after the healing process, sun exposure, medications, use of exfoliating skin products and sunscreen, as well as the immune system- just to name a few. Generally, to keep the pigment looking fresh, a touch up is recommended every year to 2 years. A touch up should not be as intense of an appointment as the initial implantation of pigment.