

Nose Reshaping (Rhinoplasty)

Description: Reshapes the nose by reducing or increasing size, removing bump, narrowing span of the nostrils, changing the angle between the nose and upper lip, or changing the shape of tip or bridge. Rhinoplasty may help to relieve breathing problems (in which case it may be covered by insurance).

Length: 1 to 2 hours, or longer.

Side Effects: Temporary swelling, numbness, bruising around the eyes, nose and headaches along with bleeding and stiffness. Some rhinoplasty procedures require wearing a splint or guard over the nose. Hematoma (a pooling of blood under the skin,) infection, and reaction to anesthesia are normal side effects.

Recovery: Smokers are expected to quit until nose is completely healed. Minor swelling may continue for months. Patients should avoid straining, bending, lifting, and wearing eye glasses immediately following surgery.

Back to work: 1 to 2 weeks.

More strenuous activities: 2 to 3 weeks with limited exposure to sunlight.

Risks: Small burst blood vessels may appear as tiny red spots on the skin's surface; usually minor, but may be permanent.

Results: Permanent, but it may take about a year for the final results to take shape. A second, corrective procedure is rarely required.

Technology: The skin of the nose is separated from its supporting framework of bone and cartilage, which the surgeon then sculpts to the desired shape. The nature of the sculpting will depend on your problem and your surgeon's preferred technique. The skin is then redraped over the new framework. Most surgeons place stitches inside the nose.

Patient Status: Inpatient 1 day

Anesthesia: General, Local with Sedation,