

**At what age is the operation done?**

The degree of emotional and physical development is probably more important than the chronological age. The procedure could be performed on youngsters 14 or 15 years of age when it is essential to help build up their confidence, and all the way up to people in their sixties or more when it contributes to achieve a more youthful appearance.

**How is the operation performed?**

The procedure is most commonly performed under local anesthesia with intravenous sedation. Except in few circumstances, the incisions are made inside the nose to avoid visible scars. The procedure requires about 60-90 minutes. A splint is placed over the nose and is left usually for one week.

**What is to be expected following surgery?**

Ice compresses are placed over the eyes for 2 days, when the patient is seen again and nasal packs are removed. Most of the swelling and bruising disappear when the splint is removed one week postoperatively at which time the patient would look presentable and can resume daily activities. Only in the movies does a nose look perfect when the splint is removed. Realistically, final swelling and softening may take 6-9 months during which time the final contour changes take place.

**Special considerations**

1. The patient's skin type, whether dry or oily, thin or thick and his healing capacity are most important in determining the final result.
2. The nose should always be looked at as part of the whole face. Balance and harmony with the other facial features might require modifications of these features.
3. Realistic expectations should always prevail for both patient and surgeon.
4. Certain degrees of asymmetry are sometimes impossible to correct but can be improved.
5. Minor irregularities evident several months following rhinoplasty can be corrected then by a touch-up operation.
6. Most important of all think positive and be patient.