

Progressive Lenses—Presio Power Achieving Visual Acuity and Eye Adaptability

Eyeglasses, essential for the modern age

Portrait of Cardinal Don Fernando Nino de Guevara.
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There are various theories about the origin of eyeglasses, but it is believed that they first appeared in Italy around 1280. The lens of the first eyeglass was fitted into a frame with a handle that was held like a magnifying glass. Eyeglasses that were worn on the ears, like those we have today, appeared about 300 years later. In 1596, spectacles with strings attached (a Spanish-Italian style) were worn by hanging the strings over the ears, as can be seen in the "Portrait of Cardinal Don Fernando Nino de Guevara."

In those days, spectacles were so expensive that only scholars, philosophers and other members of the elite could afford them. It was not until the dawn of contemporary society a few centuries later that eyeglasses became an indispensable tool.

Eyeglasses are an essential tool in our daily lives.



When glasses first became widespread, they were made of glass. Nowadays, however, 95 percent of lenses in Japan are made of plastic. This is because wearers prefer thinner, lighter lenses. Over the past few years, the design and manufacturing technology of plastic lenses have rapidly improved. Complicated free-form surfacing can only be achieved with plastics.