

Hair Replacement 101

What is Non-Surgical hair replacement?

- Non-surgical hair replacement is the addition of hair to thin or bald areas of the head and integrating it with any existing hair for a totally natural appearance with the density and body of a natural head of hair.
- At Hair Builders of Portland, we use human hair matched in color and texture to your own. The addition of the hair is generally achieved through the use of medical grade bonding agents.
- With non-surgical hair replacement you can achieve a final result in no more than 8 weeks.
- Because of the use of non-growth hair (hair that is not growing out of your scalp) ongoing service is required.

What is Surgical Hair Replacement?

- Surgical hair replacement is the redistribution of your existing hair through surgery. It is accomplished by surgically removing ribbons of scalp from the back of the head at the lower ear area, followed by closing of the wounds. Micro and mini grafts (small sections of scalp containing one to eight hair follicles) are sectioned from the ribbons of scalp and then inserted into slits made in thinning or balding areas.
- Surgical hair replacement redistributes your existing hairs to hopefully cover balding areas. This results in far fewer hairs per square inch than a natural head of hair would normally have.
- With surgical hair replacement the final result is not achieved for 10 to 12 months. The time is extended when several procedures are required.

Why should you consider Non-Surgical Hair Replacement?

- Non-surgical hair replacement is safe and non-invasive and the first choice of people who feel that surgery should be reserved for unavoidable medical situations.
- Non-surgical hair replacement is the only method of hair replacement that is 100% guaranteed to achieve the amount of hair that you desire.
- Non-Surgical hair replacement is totally reversible. If you decide it isn't for you, you're able to go back to your less-hair look at any time. Surgery on the other hand is non-reversible – you'll have to live with the result whether you're pleased or not.

Things to consider with surgical hair replacement

Both Non-Surgical and surgical methods of hair replacement offer great alternatives to having very thin hair or being bald. In order to make an informed decision between surgical and non-surgical hair replacement, ask yourself the following questions:

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- Do you feel that invasive surgery should only be used for unavoidable medical reasons?
- Are you aware that all surgical procedures involve a certain degree of risk?
- Do you have enough donor hair to achieve a truly desirable result through surgery?
- If you have a small beginning balding area, and have surgical hair replacement now, how many more surgeries will you need as you continue to lose hair?
- At what point will you run out of suitable donor hair? If this happens will you be left with an odd looking hair loss pattern?
- You only have a fixed number of hairs on your head. They don't multiply and you will never have any more. Most probably, you will have less in the future. Will multiple surgeries give you the hair that you want?
- Would you rather have a reversible procedure or one that you cannot change regardless of the results?

If you decide that hair replacement is for you, contact a hair replacement consultant.

Your consultant should serve your best interests and should meet with you personally to assess your needs and provide answers to all of your questions.

We at Hair Builders of Portland hope that this basic hair replacement primer helps you on your way to the hair you want. Be diligent, do more research, and remember that the only poor question is the one you don't ask.

More questions? Call us at (207) 883-8400

More in-depth info:

www.emedicine.com/plastic/topic61.htm

www.ahlc.org/nonsurgical.htm

www.ahlc.org/surgery.htm

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