



forum

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Hairline Placement: Getting It Right the First Time

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The idea of an irregularly placed hairline is not new. There have been many attempts over the years, and it has been promoted, but very few surgeons have embraced the concept.

This article presents a formula for creating a natural hairline and thus increasing patient satisfaction.

From a patient's perspective, the two most important issues are hairline design and the overall density. Communicating to a patient that he requires 400 grafts to the front hairline when he actually needs 800-900 will lead to disappointment and distrust. The hairline ideally should be completed in one session. It is the surgeon's responsibility to point out that it will still look like a transplant unless the correct density is achieved the first time. This is especially so with dark hair, light skinned individuals.

The natural hairline is a feather zone of sparse, fine, and irregularly placed hair increasing in density from the bald forehead to the denser, coarser hair found on top of the head. Its placement is important as it frames the face and improves the aesthetic appearance lost through baldness. The ideal transplanted hairline is as natural as possible

allowing the hair to be combed backwards if desired. Where possible we create a Norwood Class 11 hairline pattern mimicking a mature man's hairline.

Unless there is a cultural or specific job requirement (e.g., actor) for a lower hairline, this placement will suit most men for their whole life. If there is limited donor area, the hairline may be placed higher.

The medical mind that is so neat and orderly is totally at odds with nature, which is random and erratic. In the haste to angle and direct the hairs precisely to give a superior result, we have created hairlines that are now too perfect creating a solid round or bell shape across the forehead.

Often the existing hairs are too coarse and there may even be an obvious

pattern in the relationship of the hairs to one another.

Excellent hairline creation has become an art form and can be created in the first session.

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50-year-old with no hair loss. (Note irregular nature.)