

Test Your “EYE-Q” Expert version

By Brenda Fishbaugh



MY “Beginner’s Version” of “Test your ‘Eye-Q’” in THE July 2017 IST was a big hit! The “Intermediate Version” appeared in the November 2017 issue. But, are you an EXPERT? Here’s the test:

When I change lamps in my tanning units, do I need to protect my eyes?

Yes! It is critical for an equipment maintenance tech to wear eye protection when checking or changing lamps in your salon. There are inexpensive UV block safety glasses (under \$10) designed just for this use and every salon should have a couple of pairs on hand. Check with your favorite distributor to order.

Some technicians wear sunglasses, but the shape and design rarely block the UV light from all the sides to provide adequate protection. They also tend to have dark lenses, which makes it difficult to see when the tanning room is dark and the unit has not yet been turned on.

I always wear my own goggles when I tan. Do I need to clean them?

Yes! The most important detail about owning goggles is to keep them clean when you aren’t wearing them – a zipper-seal baggie is ideal. Many tanners carry their goggles in their gym

bags, rattling around with sneakers and sweaty clothes, which is a great incubator for bacteria. Some women carry goggles in their purses, where they pick up all sorts of crud and makeup – also very unsanitary. If you wouldn’t throw your unprotected toothbrush on the floor of your car or in the glove box; why would you carry your goggles in the same way?

Anti-bacterial dish soap is good for cleaning your goggles at home after every tanning session. Rinse thoroughly and make sure you dry them and store them in a clean place. DON’T microwave, boil or put your goggles in the dishwasher, as the plastic is not made to withstand those high temperatures.

Can I re-use disposable eye protection?

The FDA (Food and Drug Administration) classifies disposable eye protection as a Class One Medical product, meaning it must be thrown away after one use. Other Class One Medical products include band-aids, cotton balls and tongue depressors. We wouldn’t want the doctor storing our used tongue depressor for a week, would we? No, because it would build up bacteria. Disposable eye protection can’t be cleaned, so toss it after use! If you don’t like the disposable aspect, buy a pair of goggles and keep them clean and dry.

I’m a spray-tan tech. Do I need to protect my eyes during a spray session?

The FDA strongly recommends you wear eyewear when spraying a tanner, but it’s not required by law. Very inexpensive (under \$10) safety glasses are available from your tanning product distributor. You’ll be shocked at how much overspray you will be wiping off these daily. Spray-tan techs who don’t use a fan system, such as when they do a home party or a wedding party, will be especially glad to not have all that solution mist in their eyes.

Want to try Sunless Specs safety glasses for custom spray-tan techs? Email Brenda@WinkEase.com with the code IST Sunless Specs. I’ll send the first ten requests a free pair. ■

Want to become an Eye Protection Expert? Visit winkease.com.



About the Author:

Tanning industry veteran Brenda Fishbaugh is president of Eye Pro, Inc., makers of disposable eyewear. She travels extensively training

salons on the effects of UV light on vision.

