



A cut above

## MICROBLADING

What are the aims of this leaflet?

This leaflet has been written to help you understand more about microblading. It tells you what a microblading is and what is involved.

### **What is microblading?**

Microblading is a type of eyebrow architecture. The process is very precise thanks to the tool that is used which is effectively like a pen with the nib being a sloped blade with 10-12 little needles at the end - needles that don't penetrate the skin but just delicately scratch the surface, much like a paper cut. The needle very finely implants featherweight strokes with a medical grade pigment on the epidermis layer for the skin, creating fine, realistic and natural hair strokes. The treatment area will look 20-30% darker than the colour you have chosen in consultation but will fade within days. The result of the procedure can be affected by the following: medication, skin characteristics (dry, oily, sun damaged thick or thin skin type), pH balance of skin, alcohol and smoking, failure to follow the post procedure after care.

### **The treatment is ideal for**

- Clients who wish to have perfectly applied makeup
- People whose makeup runs due to oily skin
- People who lack confidence in their looks
- Clients who wish to enhance their natural looks
- Clients who want to have correction of scar tissue
- Clients who have overplucked eyebrows
- Clients who have had chemotherapy treatment
- Clients who have suffered hair loss
- People with sparse brows
- People who suffer with alopecia

### **How is microblading eyebrows different to having your brows tattooed?**

Microblading, unlike tattooing, is not in the deep layer of skin, but more on the surface. This is also not permanent, and the colour fades within 18 months. The hair strokes are far more natural and finer than any tattoo, as a handheld needle/blade is used – there is no electrical gadget that permeates deep in this technique. There is therefore more of a scratching noise, rather than a buzz of a tattoo gun which pierces the skin so deeply.

### **Can you be allergic to microblading?**

There are people who are sensitive and allergic to some pigments, but this is extremely rare. We will always perform a patch or scratch test to check you are not allergic prior to the treatment.

### **What actually happens when you get your eyebrows microbladed?**

1. Shape the brow area by threading the hairs, cleaning up the area and preparing it for the treatment.
2. Numbing – this takes 40mins using a topical ointment. While this is working we will show the client colour swatches and discuss together the best shade for their desired look.
3. 10 minutes before the numbing cream has got to a stage of working, we measure the area around the brows, taking into account face shape, symmetry, facial features etc.
4. Needling process - gently implanting the pigment via featherweight strokes. Each stroke is a superficial line in the skin where the colour pigment seeps in and settles then. If there is any discomfort at this stage we add another quick layer of numbing cream to the area which will become effective after 5 minutes.
5. A final layer of pigment that stays on for 5mins, clean the area
6. In 6-8 weeks there's a top-up session to fill in any gaps where the pigment hasn't taken or healed properly.

### **Why is there a top up session and when does this happen?**

The top up session happens after 6-8 weeks. This is the time for assessing the first steps, and add in any further strokes and add a darker pigment if preferred.

### **What happens in the meantime?**

You'll need to follow the aftercare instructions and avoid any picking or scratching. Your eyebrows will start to heal over, much like a tattoo, which might cause irritation but is totally normal. In the next ten days or so your eyebrows will change colour, might become flaky and look like they've faded but this is totally normal. They'll reveal their final colour and shape after around 30 days. This can then be topped up at the second session.

### **How long does microblading last?**

Microblading lasts anything between 12-18 months, but the longevity of the pigment will depend on your skin type. People with slightly more oily skin will tend to last around the 12 month mark before needing a top up, but those with normal skin can last up to 18 months. Your brows will eventually fade away if you don't continue with top ups every 18 months or so. There is no scarring or discolouration with the pigments used, so you wouldn't know if you left them to fade out.

### **Does microblading hurt?**

It doesn't hurt as such, it is more a sensation. The process itself is not painful thanks to the numbing ointment that is applied. It's sometimes the sound of the blade which people find worse – a small scratching sound. The whole process is very quick – it's actually the numbing which takes most of the time (60mins), you aren't under the needle for the whole 2 hours.

### **Can I do this if I am pregnant or breast feeding?**

No. If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, we will not perform the procedure.

### **Who is not a candidate for microblading?**

*\*A SIGNED consent form including all contraindications will be necessary before performing any microblading procedure.*

Those under the age of 18

People with diabetes- doctors consent must be provided

People with glaucoma and people who are taking blood thinners (e.g., aspirin)

People with skin diseases such as psoriasis, eczema, and undiagnosed rashes or blisters on the site that is to be treated

People with allergies to makeup or pigments

People with allergies to topical anaesthetics including betacaine, lidocaine, and tetracaine

Those with easily triggered post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation

Active skin cancer in the area to be tattooed

Are a haemophiliac

Have healing disorders, on blood thinners, uncontrolled high blood pressure or had mitral valve disorder

Those on any skin medication such as ro-accutaine, steroids which thin and oversensitive

Those with allergies to topical anaesthetics

Flu or cold- please reschedule if you have a cold, flu, or respiratory infection

Cancers/Chemotherapy- doctor's clearance will be necessary

Juvederm or other fillers- get permanent makeup first or ask your juvederm tech for clearance

Shingles- If you have shingles on your face, wait several months to get permanent makeup

Any cold sores on the face

Any visible skin conditions in the brow area including eczema, psoriasis or severe acne

### **Do I shave my natural brow hairs?**

No. We will incorporate as much of the natural brow hairs as possible. Any stray hairs that are outside the brow design will be removed.

**Can microbladed eyebrows be undone/removed?**

Yes – the pigment used leaves no scarring or discolouration. It is very important to know and understand that brows will be up to 40% darker in shade for the first 7-10 days during the healing process where scabs can form and flake off. Ladies can sometimes leave the studio, and two days later be terrified that their brows are too dark, but please be patient – as this is totally normal! After 7-10 days, you will begin to see the final colouring.

**Video link**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ea2CKTx\\_Rx4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ea2CKTx_Rx4)