


# Mastering Ophthalmic Formulae

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Phernell Walker, MBA, ABOM, LDO  
Renowned National Speaker



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 PURE OPTICS

**Optometric  
Strategy**


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## Phernell Walker, MBA, ABOM, LDO

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- ❖ Owner | Pure Optics LLC
- ❖ Author | Pure Optics
- ❖ American Board of Opticianry | Board of Directors
- ❖ Pacific University College of Optometry | Past Adjunct Professor
- ❖ Master in Business Administration (MBA)
- ❖ Master in Ophthalmic Optics (ABOM)
- ❖ Licensed Dispensing Optician (WA-LDO)
- ❖ National Contact Lens Examiners Certified (NCLEC)

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## Cira Collins

ABOM, MPH



- 18 years industry experience
- Corporate and Private Practice
- Dispenser, Buyer and Vendor
- Currently representing Lafont in the PNW
- NAO Fellow, Member of Three State Associations
- Master of Public Health, International Health and Development – Tulane University
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteer
- Serves on the Board of Directors for three non-profit organizations

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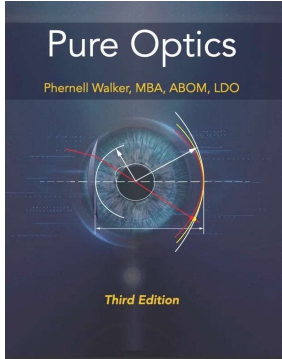
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## Resource

**Pure Optics (2023)**  
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### Objectives

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- Geometric Optics
- Position of Wear Optics and Ophthalmic Lenses
- Optical Design Considerations
- Q & A

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## Lens Power

- **Base Curve** (front vertex power)
- **Ocular Surface** (anterior vertex power)
- **Lens Thickness** (measured in meters)
- **Refractive Indices**

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## Using Formulae to Create Lens Appeal

**Practical:**

$$D_1 + D_2 + (t) (D_1)^2 / n = D_e$$

**Exact:**


$$[ D_2 / 1 - (t/n) (D_2) ] + D_1 = D_e$$

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## Variable Key

- $D_1$  = base curve
- $D_2$  = ocular curve
- $t$  = thickness (M)
- $n$  = refractive index
- $D_e$  = total dioptric power
- 1 = constant



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## Lights Camera Action

A lens has a base curve of +9.00D, Ocular curve of -2.00D, 7mm thick and is made of plastic 1.60n.

What is the lens power the patient will experience?

$$D_1 + D_2 + (t) (D_1)^2 / n = D_e$$

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## And there you have it!

**Formula:**

$$D_1 + D_2 + (t) (D_1)^2 / n = D_e$$

$$+9.00 + -2.00 + (7\text{mm}) (9.00)^2 / 1.60 = D_e$$

$$+7.00 + ( .007\text{m}) (81) / 1.60 = D_e$$

$$+7.00 + .567 / 1.60 = D_e$$

$$+7.00 + .35 = D_e$$

$$\mathbf{+7.35 = D_e}$$

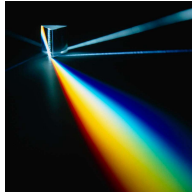
**\*Power experienced by the patient ignoring vertex distance**

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### Resolving and Resulting Prism

- Rectangular (Resolving Prism)
- Polar Coordinate (Resultant)

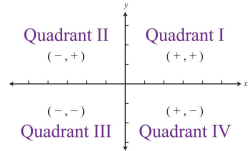


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### Prism Rectangular Form

- B.I.
- B.O.
- B.U.
- B.D.
- Combination



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### Rectangular Prism Notation

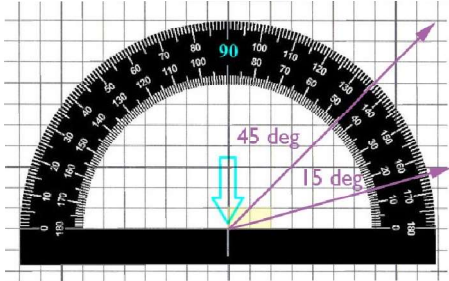
Polar coordinate prism notation indicates the base direction in degrees. There may be times when you will need to convert between rectangular and polar coordinate prism form.

This can be most useful when neutralizing lenses (determining the unknown power of a lens) with a lensometer.

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### Polar to Rectangular Prism Conversion



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### Polar Notation to Rectangular

$$V = (D_c) (\text{sine } a)$$

$$H = (D_c) (\text{cosine } a)$$

V = Vertical Coordinate  
 H = Horizontal Coordinate  
 D<sub>c</sub> = Power of Prism

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### Polar to Rectangular Prism Conversion

Example:

Convert the following prescription from polar notation to rectangular notation:

O.D. +3.25 DS, 4 Prism, B.I. @ 045

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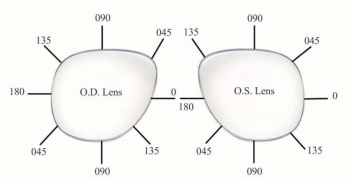
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**Solution:**

OD: +3.25 DS, 4<sup>Δ</sup> BI @ 045

V = (4.00) (.707)  
 H = (4.00) (.707)  
 V = 2.82  
 H = 2.82

OD: +3.25, 2.82<sup>Δ</sup> B.U., 2.82<sup>Δ</sup> B.I. Notice the rectangular coordinates for the right eye directly corresponds with the polar coordinate of 045 degrees (fig. 11-5).




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## Resultant Prism

When generating prescriptions and creating prism in an optical lab, it is important to know the exact location of the prism's base.



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**Rectangular to Polar Notation**

$$\sqrt{P} = \sqrt{H^2 + V^2}$$

$$\tan^{-1} a = V / H$$

where:

$\sqrt{P}$  = prism (square root of the prism)  
 $V^2$  = vertical coordinate  
 $H^2$  = horizontal coordinate

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## Convert Resultant into Polar Prism

**Example:**

OD +3.00 DS, 4 Prism B.I. & 2 Prism B.U. from rectangular to polar prism

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$$\sqrt{P} = \sqrt{H^2 + V^2}$$

$$\sqrt{P} = \sqrt{4^2 + 2^2}$$

$$\sqrt{P} = \sqrt{16 + 4}$$

$$\sqrt{P} = 20$$

$$\sqrt{P} = 4.47 D^{\Delta}$$

$$\tan^{-1} a = V / H$$

$$\tan^{-1} a = 2 / 4$$

$$\tan^{-1} a = .50$$

Converted Rx: +3.00 DS, 4.47 D<sup>Δ</sup> @ 27 degrees

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## Objects Viewed Are Skewed Through My Glasses

**Rx:**

OD: -8.50 DS  
 OS: -8.50 DS

- √ Pantoscopic Tilt = 15 deg
- √ n = 1.498 (Cr-39)
- √ Vertex = 13mm



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### Martin's Tilt Formula

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### Mastering Optics with Formulae

$$S_{De} = S [1 + (\sin @)^2 / 2n]$$

$$C_{De} = S_{De} (\tan @)^2$$

Variable Key:

- $S_{De}$  = effective sphere power
- $S$  = sphere power
- $n$  = refractive index
- $C_{De}$  = effective cylinder

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### Step I: $S_{De} = S [1 + (\sin @)^2 / 2n]$

$$S_{De} = S [1 + (\sin @)^2 / 2n]$$

$$S_{De} = -8.50 [1 + (\sin 15)^2 / 2 (1.498)]$$

$$S_{De} = -8.50 [1 + .06698 / 2.996]$$

$$S_{De} = (-8.50) (1 + .02235)$$

$$S_{De} = (-8.50) (1.02235)$$

$$S_{De} = -8.68$$

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### Step II: $C_{De} = S_{De} (\tan @)^2$

$$C_{De} = -8.68 (\tan 15)^2$$

$$C_{De} = -8.68 (\tan 15)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-8.68) (\tan 15)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-8.68) (\tan 15)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-8.68) (0.26759)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-8.68) (0.07160441)$$

$$C_{De} = 0.716$$

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### Final: Lens Tilt Resultant Rx

**Original Rx:**  
 OD: -8.50 DS  
 OS: -8.50 DS

**Resultant Rx:**  
 -8.68 -0.72 x 180

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### I Feel Nauseous

**Rx:**  
 OD: -6.00 -1.00 x 180  
 OS: -6.00 -1.00 x 180

- Parabolic Angle = 20 deg
- $n = 1.70$
- Vertex = 13mm

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### Step I: Convert Rx to the 090th Meridian

Rx:

OD: -6.00 -1.00 x 180

OS: -6.00 -1.00 x 180

Rx:

OD: -7.00 +1.00 x 090

OS: -7.00 +1.00 x 090

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### Step I: $S_{De} = S [1 + (\sin @)^2 / 2n]$

$$S_{De} = S [1 + (\sin @)^2 / 2n]$$

$$S_{De} = -7.00 [1 + (\sin 20)^2 / 2 (1.70)]$$

$$S_{De} = -7.00 [1 + 0.1169 / 3.40]$$

$$S_{De} = (-7.00) (1 + 0.034)$$

$$S_{De} = (-7.00) (1.034)$$

$$S_{De} = -7.238$$

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### Step II: $C_{De} = S_{De} (\tan @)^2$

$$C_{De} = -7.24 (\tan 20)^2$$

$$C_{De} = -7.24 (\tan 20)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-7.24) (\tan 20)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-7.24) (\tan 20)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-7.24) (0.36397)^2$$

$$C_{De} = (-7.24) (0.13247)$$

$$C_{De} = +0.96$$

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### Final: Lens Tilt x 180 Resultant Rx

Original Rx:

OD: -6.00 -1.00 x 180

OS: -6.00 -1.00 x 180

Original (Transposed) to 090th Meridian:

OD: -7.00 +1.00 x 090

OS: -7.00 +1.00 x 090

Resultant Effective Rx:

Answer: -7.28 +1.96 x 090

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### Magnification Factors

- Base Curve
- Dioptric Power
- Thickness
- Vertex Distance
- Refractive index



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### Magnification

$$Ms = 1 / (1 - (t) (D_s)) / n$$

$$Mp = 1 / (1 - De (hm))$$

$$(Ms) (Mp) = Mt$$

$$(Mt - 1) 100 = \% \text{ of } X$$

**Ms** = Shape Factor

**Mp** = Power Factor

**Mt** = Magnification Total



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### Practice Makes Perfect

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**Example:**

A patient has the following prescription & fitting parameters:

- ⓄSV Lenses
- Ⓞ1.66<sub>n</sub>
- ⓄVertex (h) = 13mm
- ⓄBC: +2.00D

What is the percentage of spectacle magnification?

O.D. -8.75 D.S. (thickness 5mm)  
 O.S. -6.50 D.S. (thickness 4mm)

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### Step I: Calculate Shape Factor

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OD Lens Only:

$$MS = 1 / 1 - (t/n) (D_1)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - (.005/1.66) (2)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - (.003) (2)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - .006$$

$$MS = 1 / .994$$

$$MS = 1.006$$

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### Step II: Calculate Power Factor

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**O.D. Lens Only:**

$$MP = 1 / 1 - (h) (D)$$

$$MP = 1 / 1 - (.013)(-8.75)$$

$$MP = 1 / 1 - .113$$

$$MP = 1 / .887$$

$$MP = 1.127$$


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### Step III: Step x Power

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OD Lens Only:

$$SM = [ (MS) (MP) - 1 ] 100$$

$$SM = [ (1.006) (1.127) - 1 ] 100$$

$$SM = [ 1.133 - 1 ] 100$$

**Answer:**  
 Spectacle Magnification = 13.30%

(Minus Lenses equal 13.30% demagnification)

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### Step I: Calculate Shape Power

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O.S. Lens Only:


$$MS = 1 / 1 - (t/n) (D_1)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - (.004/1.66) (2)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - (.002) (2)$$

$$MS = 1 / 1 - .004$$

$$MS = 1 / .996$$

$$MS = 1.004$$


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### Step II: Calculate Power Factor

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O.S. Lens Only:

$$MP = 1 / 1 - (h) (D)$$

$$MP = 1 / 1 - (.013) (-6.00)$$

$$MP = 1 / 1 - .078$$

$$MP = 1 / .922$$

$$MP = 1.084$$

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### Final Step

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#### Multiply Shape & Power Factors

SM = [ (SF) (PF) - 1 ] 100

SM = [ (1.004 ) (1.084) - 1 ] 100

SM = [1.088 - 1] 100

SM = 8.80% (minus power results in demagnification)

O.D. 13.30% demagnification

O.S. 8.80% demagnification

**Difference = 4.50%.**

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## Manipulating Plano Lenses

How can you manipulate the image size of a plano lens?

Plano lenses are considered “afocal” (dioptric power factor is unity), which means that a change in magnification can be created using the shape factor alone.

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## Manipulating Plano Lenses

$$Mt = -t (D2) / 10n$$

- Mt = Total magnification needed
- -t = thickness
- D2 = ocular curve
- n = substrate's refractive index

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<b>CC:</b>	Blurry Vision
<b>Location:</b>	Distance Vision
<b>Onset:</b>	New Contacts
<b>Severity:</b>	6
<b>Duration:</b>	Constant
<b>Mod. Fac:</b>	None

**Blurry Vision with New Soft Toric Contacts**

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### Soft Toric Contact Lenses

Presenting Rx	SCOR
- Cyl: -8.50 -2.00 x 180	- CYL: -0.50 -0.75 x 140
+Cyl: -10.50+2.00 x 090	+ Cyl: -1.25 +0.75 x 050

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### Combining Cylinders

$$C^2 = C_1^2 + C_2^2 + 2C_1 C_2 \cos 2y$$

$$S = (S_1 + S_2 + C_1 + C_2 - C) / 2$$

$$^{-1} \tan / 2 = C_2 \sin 2y / C_1 + C_2 \cos 2y$$

- Lower Axis Rx =  $S_1 C_1 x a_1$
- Higher Axis Rx =  $S_2 C_2 x a_2$
- $y = a_2 - a_1$

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### Calculate New Cylinder

$$C^2 = C_1^2 + C_2^2 + 2C_1 C_2 \cos 2y$$

$$C^2 = 0.75^2 + 2^2 + 2(0.75)(2) \cos 2(40)$$

$$C^2 = 0.5625 + 4 + 1.50(2) \cos 80$$

$$C^2 = 0.5625 + 4 + 3(0.17)$$

$$C^2 = \sqrt{5.07}$$

**C = +2.25** \*plus cylinder format

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### Calculate New Sphere

$$S = (S_1 + S_2) + (C_1 + C_2 - C) / 2$$

$$S = (-10.50 + -1.25) + (0.75 + 2.00 - 2.25) / 2$$

$$S = -11.75 + -0.50 / 2$$

$$S = -11.75 + -0.25$$

**S = -11.50** \*plus cylinder format

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### Calculate New Axis

$$^{-1}\tan / 2 = C_2 \sin 2y / C_1 + C_2 \cos 2y$$

$$^{-1}\tan / 2 = 2.25 \sin 80 / 0.75 + 2 \cos 80$$

$$^{-1}\tan / 2 = 2.21 / 1.10$$

$$^{-1}\tan / 2 = 2.01$$

$$^{-1}\tan / 2 = 64$$

*Axis = 31.77 degrees of change*

**Add 32 degrees to a<sub>1</sub> (32 + 50 = 082)**

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### Corrected Soft Toric Contacts

Presenting Rx	CORRECTED RX
+ CYL: -10.50 +2.00 x 090	+ CYL: -11.50 +2.25 x 082
- CYL: -8.50 -2.00 x 180	- CYL: -9.25 -2.25 x 171

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- Make sure you follow Phernell and learn if he won:


Reach out at [cira@cira.me](mailto:cira@cira.me)

International Optician of the Year!

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