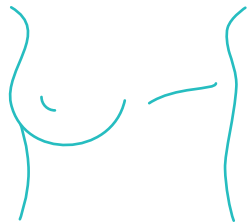


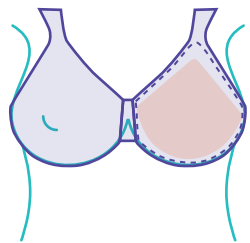
About Us

Medical Art Resources offers breast and nipple prosthetic services for post-mastectomy patients or individuals seeking a prosthetic alternative to surgical breast augmentation. Our certified anaplastologists and certified mastectomy fitter have obtained advanced training in custom prosthetics, which gives us a perspective and skillset unique from some other mastectomy fitters. Our approach to fitting and achieving your prosthetic goals is informed by our extensive knowledge of material properties and years of experience designing patient-specific prostheses.

Ensuring positive patient experiences is extremely important to us. We treat our patients like family and are committed to making sure your time with us is stress free.



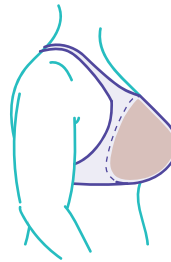
A breast prosthesis is a non-invasive, restorative option for individuals who experience the absence of breast tissue or asymmetry, which can result from mastectomy, lumpectomy, injury, post-reconstruction complications, or congenital conditions. A prosthesis is an alternative to surgical reconstruction after mastectomy and lumpectomy, or for individuals seeking non-surgical breast augmentation.



In general, a breast prosthesis is a device that functions to restore the anatomical volume of the breast, as observed when wearing a bra and clothing.

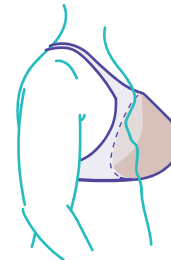
A breast prosthesis may be **CUSTOM** or **NON-CUSTOM**. Both custom and non-custom breast prostheses are made with medical-grade silicone; however, the silicone properties may vary.

Non-Custom vs. Custom

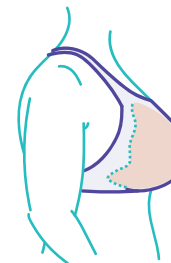
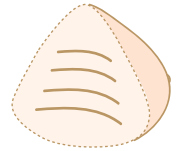


Non-Custom Breast Prostheses are externally-worn devices intended to create the profile and symmetry of an individual's breasts as they appear when wearing a bra and clothing.

Non-custom prostheses are "off-the-shelf" products available in various shapes and styles. Depending on the design and material of the non-custom prosthesis, it may be worn within the pocket of a pocketed mastectomy bra or outside the pocket against the skin.



Typically, the backside of non-custom prostheses is slightly depressed, or hollowed out, creating a shallow cup-like shape. For some women with significant concavities or irregular chest contours after surgery, the "hollowed out" cup-like shape of a non-custom form may not effectively fill the irregularities of the chest wall. This can cause gapping between the prosthesis and the chest surface, which may impede proper bra fit and cause discomfort and insecurity. A custom breast prosthesis is often a promising solution for women with complex chest contours that are challenging to fit with a non-custom prosthesis.



A custom prosthesis is designed to fit the patient's unique contours in order to achieve a symmetric restoration that can be comfortably and effectively supported by the bra. A custom breast prosthesis may also be a solution for women needing a breast size, shape, or weight that is not available among non-custom products.

Fitting Appointment

During a fitting appointment, our certified fitter will take body measurements to determine appropriate bra band and cup size. The fitter will also assess characteristics of the chest wall and gather information about the patient's mobility and lifestyle. Prosthesis size and style will be influenced by one's necessary bra size, chest wall contours, and personal prosthetic goals. We do not charge for consultation or fitting appointments.

Insurance Coverage

If you decide to proceed with your prosthetic treatment plan we will ask you to provide us with insurance or other payer information. With your permission we will request a physician's order and clinical notes from your doctor to help us predetermine your insurance benefits and submit a prior authorization request. We strive to set fees that are affordable, and we will help you navigate the complexity of billing for medical care. We also advocate on behalf of patients to obtain coverage of prosthetics from insurance providers.

Custom Breast & Nipple Prosthesis

Custom Breast Prosthesis

Fitting

The fitting process for a custom breast prosthesis is similar to the non-custom fitting process. The patient will initially be fit with a non-custom prosthesis (or prostheses) and a mastectomy bra. This fitting process is necessary to determine a desired profile and symmetry.

Aspects of Customization

There are two levels of customization that are prioritized with the design of a custom breast prosthesis:

1. Patient-specific **FIT, SHAPE, & SIZE**
2. Patient-specific coloration and texture

Custom fit, shape, and size permit a functional restoration when a non-custom breast prosthesis cannot do so successfully. It is important to understand that custom color and texture can improve how well a prosthesis “blends in” with the underlying tissue, but they do not necessarily affect how the prosthesis achieves its restorative function. Although a high degree of realism can be achieved with a custom prosthesis, we will prioritize custom fit, shape, and size in the ultimate design of the prosthesis.

Custom Prosthesis Fabrication

Medical Art Resources anaplastologists will create a custom breast prosthesis specifically designed for the patient. This process involves:

Fitting – You will be fit with bras and non-custom forms to determine your desired profile and symmetry.

Impression – The anaplastologist will take a physical or digital mold of your chest wall. The impression will be used to make a duplicate model of your chest, upon which we will design a prosthesis that keys into your unique contours for a custom fit.

Color Matching – We will create a series of color swatches that match your unique skin tone and patterning.

Bra Requirements for Custom Prostheses

Custom breast prostheses are tailored to the individual patient and designed to stay in place directly against the skin. Soft silicones with adhesive properties are typically used to create the prosthesis, allowing it to comfortably interface with the underlying skin surface without the use of skin adhesives. While a pocketed mastectomy bra is not necessary, we can recommend certain bra design features to ensure the bra can support your prosthesis. Our certified mastectomy fitter will help you identify a bra style that will provide you the most comfort, support, and protection from irritation or lymphedema-associated risks.

Custom Nipple Prosthesis

Our custom nipple prostheses are created for those who have had lumpectomies or mastectomies, sometimes followed by surgical breast reconstruction, as treatment for breast cancer. We match the nipple size and projection, areola diameter, texture and color of your nipple with attention to every detail. Our soft silicone adheres naturally to the breast when worn within a bra. Adhesive may be used for added confidence and is recommended when the prosthetic nipple is worn without a bra.



What Is the Process for Making a Nipple Prosthesis?

First and foremost, no need to worry—we are gentle, respectful, and nothing we do is painful. We custom-make each prosthesis in our own laboratory ensuring high quality and individual design. The process typically requires 3 appointments which involve these steps:

- We make molds of the breast or chest wall, from which a duplicate model is made.
- We carefully sculpt the shape of the prosthesis in wax directly on the surface of the duplicate model to establish a natural contour.
- When the sculpture is complete, we fabricate a durable mold which allows us to reproduce the soft, highly detailed prosthetic nipple.
- We create color formulae to match your complexion.
- Using your color formulae, we meticulously paint every skin detail into your mold.
- We examine the nipple prosthesis for precise fit, and delicately paint color details onto the surface.
- We demonstrate wear and care instructions so that you can use your nipple prosthesis with confidence.



Get In Touch

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