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**Eye defects**

[**Myopia**](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-myopia.htm) is easily one of the most common of all eye defects. Known to many as [nearsightedness](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-nearsightedness.htm), this condition allows the individual to enjoy clear vision up close, while objects become increasingly blurred as the individual moves further away from them. Myopia is usually an example of eye [birth defects](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-are-the-most-common-birth-defects.htm), since the condition involves either a lens that is thicker than normal or an eyeball that is smaller than it should be. [Corrective lenses](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-are-corrective-lenses.htm) and some surgical techniques can compensate for the condition and allow the individual to enjoy a more normal range of sight.

[**Hyperopia**](https://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-hyperopia.htm) or farsightedness is the opposite of myopia. People suffering with this condition tend to have normal distance vision, but are unable to clearly focus on objects that are close by. This condition is more common later in life, and is usually attributed to a lens that has become too thin, or some condition that has caused the eyeball to increase in size. As with nearsightedness, the use of corrective lenses can partially compensate for the condition and make it easier for the individual to enjoy reading or other activities that require a clear view of nearby objects.