



**MICROPIGMENTATION MANUAL**  
**MACHINE SPMU**

## MICROPIGMENTATION OVERVIEW

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Within this Training Manual you will learn all of the techniques necessary to complete machines brows (ombre/nano), lips and eyeliner SPMU treatments. This manual covers safety, environment, legislation, practitioner guidance, client care, theory and practical knowledge.

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## IDEAL CLINIC SET UP

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- Wipeable Flooring
- Sink
- Hand Sanitiser
- Paper Towels
- Clinical Waste Contract
- Insurance
- Bed
- Light
- Stool
- Trolley's
- Sharps Bins
- Clinical Waste Bins
- Disinfectants
- Tools
- Couch Roll
- Gloves & PPE
- Air Conditioning or Ventilation
- Stress Balls

Clinical waste, also known as healthcare or medical waste, is any waste generated during healthcare activities that may pose a risk of infection or other harm. This includes items contaminated with blood, bodily fluids, or other potentially infectious substances, as well as sharps like needles and syringes.

### **INFECTIOUS WASTE:**

This includes items contaminated with blood, bodily fluids, and other potentially infectious substances. Examples include dressings, swabs, and personal protective equipment (PPE) that have been in contact with infectious materials or patients.

### **SHARPS:**

This includes items that can puncture or cut, such as needles, syringes, scalpels, and lancets.

### **ANATOMICAL WASTE:**

This includes human or animal tissues and body parts.

### **PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE:**

This includes expired medications, medications in excess, and empty containers.

### **CONTAMINATED EQUIPMENT:**

This includes items like bedpans, liners, stoma bags, and urine containers that have been contaminated.

Clinical waste needs to be handled and disposed of carefully to prevent the spread of infection and ensure safety, often requiring specialised disposal methods like incineration or autoclaving.



- 1 Set up a clinical waste contract with a local supplier
- 2 Organise regular clinical waste collections - monthly, weekly or adhoc
- 3 Ensure to use correct coloured sharps bins (aka Purple for Cytotoxic Waste - Botox)
- 4 Purchase sharps bins, clinical waste bins and clinical waste bags from supplier
- 5 Ensure to have a smooth clinical waste system throughout your clinic

This section outlines the legal, health, and safety requirements relating to Council Licensing for Micropigmentation (SPMU) treatments. It is designed to ensure that all trainees understand their responsibilities when practicing SPMU, whether working from a clinic, salon, studio, or mobile setting.

SPMU is classed as a special treatment under UK local authority regulations and is therefore subject to council licensing and inspection.

### **BEFORE OFFERING SPMU TREATMENTS, PRACTITIONERS MUST:**

- Hold a recognised SPMU or Micropigmentation Qualification
- Provide proof of adequate training, including:
  - Infection control
  - Blood-borne pathogens
  - Health & safety
- Hold valid public liability and treatment insurance specifically covering SPMU
- Register with their local council if required
- Some councils require individual practitioner registration even when working within a licensed premises.

### **COUNCILS MAY INSPECT PREMISES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH:**

- Clean, non-porous work surfaces
- Suitable hand-washing facilities
- Separate clean and contaminated zones
- Clinical waste disposal contracts
- Adequate lighting and ventilation
- Sharps disposal procedures

No treatments may be performed until the premises licence has been granted.

### **LICENSING REQUIREMENTS VARY BETWEEN COUNCILS. TRAINEES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:**

- Contacting their local council directly
- Confirming whether SPMU is licensed under tattooing or micropigmentation
- Understanding renewal dates, fees, and inspection processes

### **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH COUNCIL REGULATIONS MAY RESULT IN:**

- Fines
- Enforcement notices
- Business closure
- Invalidity of insurance



Consultation forms are important because they ensure informed consent, gather essential client information, and help professionals understand client needs and preferences before a treatment. They also provide a record of discussions, agreed-upon treatments, and any allergies or conditions, acting as a paper trail for potential issues. Additionally, they can help with aftercare instructions and demonstrate a professional approach to treatment.

### WHY MUST WE ENSURE THESE ARE DOCUMENTED?

#### INFORMED CONSENT AND LEGAL PROTECTION:

Consultation forms ensure clients understand the treatment, including risks, benefits, and aftercare instructions, demonstrating informed consent. They can act as a legal record, protecting professionals from potential disputes or misunderstandings.

#### GATHERING CLIENT INFORMATION:

- Forms allow professionals to collect crucial information like allergies, medical conditions, and previous treatments, helping them tailor the treatment plan.
- They enable professionals to understand client goals, expectations, and desired outcomes, ensuring a better experience.

#### BUILDING RAPPORT AND TRUST:

- Consultations provide an opportunity for professionals to establish a relationship with clients, fostering trust and understanding.
- Open communication and personalised attention, documented in the form, can lead to greater client satisfaction and loyalty.

#### STREAMLINING THE PROCESS:

- Forms can save time during the appointment by gathering information beforehand and streamlining the discussion.
- They can be accessed quickly, allowing for efficient review of client history and treatment plans.

### WHO WE RECOMMEND?

We use Faces Consent App, however any reputable consent company will be sufficient.



Scan the QR code to sign up to Faces Consent  
[www.facesconsent.com](http://www.facesconsent.com)

# CONTRAINDICATIONS

A contraindication in medicine is a factor that makes a particular treatment or procedure inadvisable for a specific individual because it could cause harm or be ineffective. It's essentially a reason not to use a certain treatment due to potential risks or adverse reactions.

**SPMU MUST NOT BE CARRIED OUT ON CLIENTS WITH THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:**

**ABSOLUTE CONTRAINDICATIONS (DO NOT TREAT)**

- Blood-borne infectious diseases (e.g. HIV, Hepatitis B or C)
- Active cancer or clients currently undergoing chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- Severe haemophilia or uncontrolled bleeding disorders
- Epilepsy that is uncontrolled or without medical clearance
- Known allergy to pigments, metals, or topical anaesthetics used in treatment
- Severe immune system disorders or immunosuppression
- Active scalp infections, including bacterial, viral, or fungal infections
- Open wounds, unhealed scars, or broken skin in the treatment area
- Contagious skin conditions
- Clients under the legal age of consent

**SPMU MAY ONLY BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CONDITION HAS RESOLVED, STABILISED, OR WITH WRITTEN MEDICAL CONSENT:**

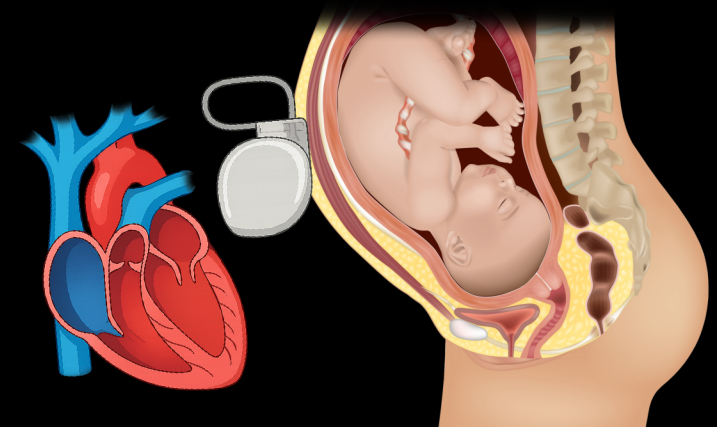
- Diabetes (especially if poorly controlled)
- Pregnancy or breastfeeding
- Autoimmune conditions
- Psoriasis, eczema, dermatitis, or seborrhoeic dermatitis on or near the scalp
- Keloid or hypertrophic scarring tendency
- Recent hair transplant or scalp surgery (minimum healing time required)
- Recent sunburn, irritation, or inflammation of the scalp
- Use of blood-thinning medication (e.g. warfarin, aspirin, clopidogrel)
- Use of isotretinoin (Roaccutane) within the last 6-12 months
- High blood pressure that is uncontrolled
- Skin cancer history in the treatment zone

**CONTRA-ACTION**

- Excessive redness or swelling
- Bleeding or pinpoint bleeding during treatment
- Bruising around the treatment area
- Tenderness or soreness of the scalp
- Itching during the healing process
- Scabbing or flaking of the skin
- Temporary colour darkening or lightening
- Uneven pigment retention during healing
- Mild headaches or light-headedness

**RARE BUT SERIOUS CONTRA-ACTIONS:**

- Infection due to poor aftercare or hygiene
- Allergic reaction to pigment or products used



# FIRST AID

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**WE HIGHLY ADVISE ENSURING YOU ARE FIRST AID AND ANAPHYLAXIS TRAINED.**

First aid training is important because it empowers individuals to confidently respond to emergencies, potentially saving lives, preventing injuries from worsening, and promoting recovery. It also boosts confidence, increases awareness of risks, and encourages teamwork, both in personal and professional settings.



Anaphylaxis training is crucial because anaphylaxis is a severe, life-threatening allergic reaction that can develop rapidly.

Training equips individuals with the knowledge and skills to recognise the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis, understand the appropriate treatment (including adrenaline auto-injectors), and deliver first aid until professional help arrives. This knowledge is vital for protecting individuals with allergies and ensuring workplace safety.

## **HERE'S WHY IT'S SO IMPORTANT:**

### **RAPID ONSET:**

Anaphylaxis can develop quickly, often within minutes of exposure to an allergen. Prompt recognition and treatment are essential to prevent serious complications or death.

### **LIFE-THREATENING NATURE:**

Anaphylaxis can cause airway obstruction, breathing difficulties, and circulatory collapse, making it a life-threatening emergency.

### **IMPORTANCE OF RECOGNITION:**

Recognising the signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis (such as difficulty breathing, throat swelling, dizziness, and skin reactions) is the first critical step in providing timely treatment.

### **ADRENALINE AUTO-INJECTOR (AAI) USE:**

Training includes learning how to correctly use an AAI (like an EpiPen) to administer adrenaline, which is the primary treatment for anaphylaxis.

### **CPR AND AED:**

Some anaphylaxis training courses also cover basic life support (CPR) and the use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), which may be needed if the individual loses consciousness.

Ensure to have a First Aid kit and Bodily Fluids spill kit accessible within your work space.

## WHAT IS SPMU MICRO-PIGMENTATION?

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Semi-Permanent Makeup (SPMU) micropigmentation is a cosmetic procedure that implants specialised pigments into the upper layers of the skin to enhance natural features. In eyebrow treatments, it can create realistic hair-like strokes or fuller, defined brows. For lip blush, it adds subtle colour, definition, and symmetry to the lips, giving a soft, natural tint that enhances their appearance.

SPMU is a long-lasting, non-surgical solution that improves the shape, colour, and overall aesthetics of facial features, with results tailored to each client's preferences.

- ENHANCES NATURAL FEATURES** → Creates fuller, well-defined brows and subtly tinted, shaped lips.
- TIME-SAVING** → Reduces daily makeup application.
- LONG-LASTING RESULTS** → Maintains colour and shape for months to years with proper care.
- CUSTOMISABLE** → Pigment, shape, and intensity tailored to individual client preferences.
- CAMOUFLAGES IMPERFECTIONS** → Covers sparse areas, scars, or uneven pigmentation.
- BOOSTS CONFIDENCE** → Improves appearance, giving a polished, youthful look.
- LOW MAINTENANCE** → Minimal touch-ups required after healing.



## HOW SPMU WORKS?

SPMU uses a specialised micro pigmentation machine equipped with fine needles to deposit pigment into the upper layer of the skin (epidermis and superficial dermis). The machine's adjustable settings control needle speed, depth, and density, allowing the practitioner to create precise effects such as hair-like strokes for eyebrows or soft, blended colour for lip blush. The controlled application ensures even pigment placement, minimal trauma to the skin, and a natural-looking result that heals gradually over several weeks.

## TOPS UPS & REMOVALS?

SPMU results typically last 1-3 years, with top-up sessions recommended 6-12 weeks after the initial treatment and then annually or as needed; removal or correction can be achieved using pigment lightening techniques such as laser removal, saline tattoo removal, or specialised fading solutions performed by a trained professional.

Clients should be informed that SPMU pigments can naturally change over time due to factors such as sun exposure, skin type, lifestyle, and the body's natural pigment absorption. Colours may fade, lighten, or shift slightly, which can alter the original appearance of eyebrows or lip blush. For this reason, it is normal for clients to require touch-ups or, in some cases, removal in the future to maintain or adjust their desired look. Setting this expectation during the consultation ensures clients understand the longevity of their treatment and the potential need for corrective procedures.

## OVERVIEW OF THE SKIN

The skin is the body's largest organ, serving as the first line of defence against environmental damage, pathogens, and dehydration. Understanding its structure and function is essential for performing safe and effective Semi Permanent Makeup treatments.

## THE SKIN HAS THREE MAIN LAYERS, EACH WITH DISTINCT ROLES:

### 1 EPIDERMIS

- Outermost layer of the skin.
- Provides a protective barrier and is responsible for skin renewal through cellular turnover.

#### COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF KERATINOCYTES, ARRANGED IN SEVERAL SUB-LAYERS:

- STRATUM CORNEUM** → Outermost layer of dead cells (corneocytes) that protect against pathogens and moisture loss.
- STRATUM LUCIDUM** → Found only in thick skin (palms, soles).
- STRATUM GRANULOSUM** → Cells begin keratinization (hardening process).
- STRATUM SPINOSUM** → Provides strength and flexibility.
- STRATUM BASALE (GERMINATIVUM)** → Deepest layer where new cells are produced.

- Melanocytes within the basal layer produce melanin, which determines skin colour and provides UV protection.

### 2 DERMIS

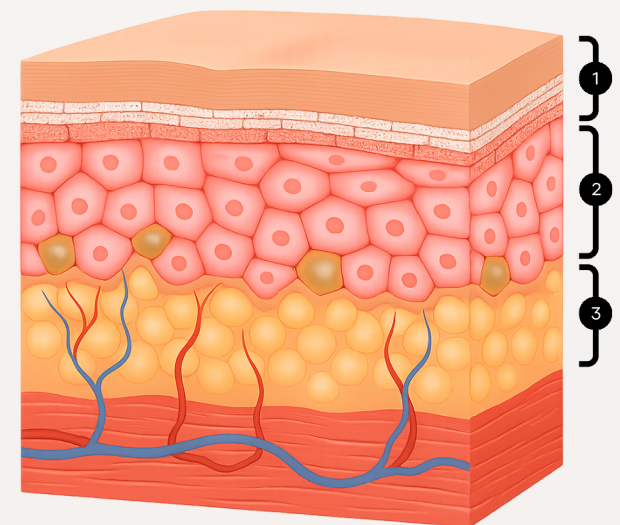
- Lies beneath the epidermis and is composed of connective tissue.
- Provides strength, elasticity, and nourishment to the skin.

#### CONTAINS

- COLLAGEN AND ELASTIN FIBERS** → Responsible for firmness and elasticity.
- BLOOD VESSELS** → Deliver oxygen and nutrients, assist in thermoregulation.
- NERVE ENDINGS** → Allow sensations such as touch, temperature, and pain.
- SEBACEOUS AND SWEAT GLANDS** → Regulate moisture and temperature.
- HAIR FOLLICLES** → Anchor hair and play a role in oil distribution.

### 3 SUBCUTANEOUS LAYER (HYPODERMIS)

- Made up of fat cells (adipose tissue) and connective tissue.
- Acts as insulation and cushioning, protecting underlying organs and bones.
- Provides a reserve of energy and helps anchor the skin to deeper structures.



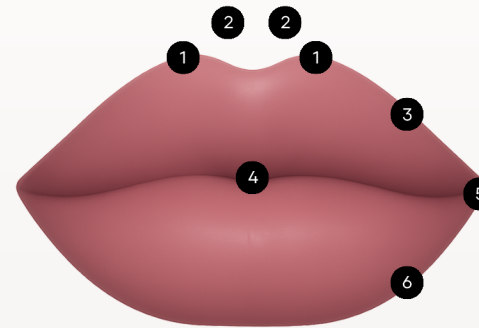
# ANATOMICAL AREAS

## EYES/BROWS/LIPS

### 1 LIP ANATOMY

The lips consist of delicate skin, muscle (orbicularis oris), and a thin layer of connective tissue, with the vermillion border marking the natural edge where lip colour meets facial skin. The skin on the lips is thinner than other facial areas, making it more sensitive and prone to swelling during SPMU.

Understanding the lip's structure, natural contours, and underlying blood vessels is essential for safe pigment placement, achieving even colour, and creating a natural, symmetrical result while minimising trauma and discomfort.

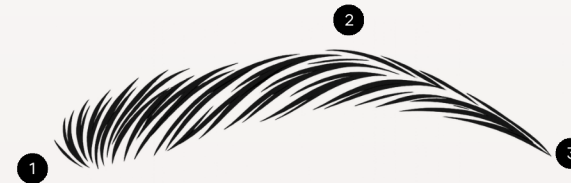


- 1 Cupids Bow
- 2 Philtrum
- 3 Vermillion Border
- 4 Tubercles
- 5 Oral Commissures
- 6 Vermillion Border

### 2 BROW ANATOMY

Eyebrows are composed of hair follicles embedded in the dermis, overlying a thin layer of skin and underlying muscles such as the frontalis, corrugator, and orbicularis oculi, which influence brow movement and expression. Understanding the natural brow shape, hair direction, density, and the bony structure beneath is essential for designing symmetrical, realistic results.

Proper knowledge of eyebrow anatomy helps ensure precise pigment placement, creates natural-looking strokes, and reduces the risk of trauma or uneven fading.

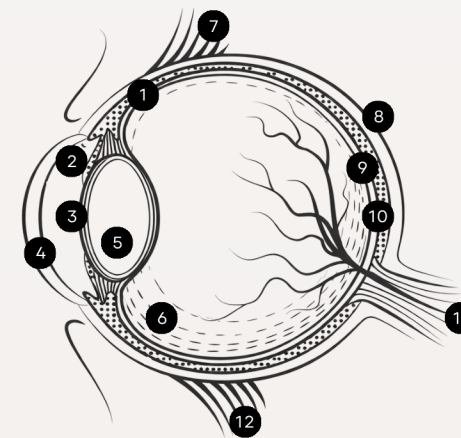


- 1 Inner Corner
- 2 Arch
- 3 Tail

### 3 EYE ANATOMY

The eyes are surrounded by delicate skin, muscles, and connective tissue, including the orbicularis oculi, which controls eyelid movement, and the levator palpebrae, which lifts the upper eyelid. Understanding the eyelid structure, lash line, and natural eye shape is essential for eyeliner micropigmentation or lash enhancement treatments.

Proper anatomical knowledge ensures safe pigment placement, reduces the risk of irritation or injury, and helps achieve a symmetrical, natural-looking result that complements each client's features.



- 1 Iris
- 2 Aqueous Humour
- 3 Pupil
- 4 Cornea
- 5 Lens
- 6 Vitreous Humour
- 7 Lateral Rectus Muscle
- 8 Sclera
- 9 Retina
- 10 Macula
- 11 Optic Nerve
- 12 Medial Rectus Muscle

Micropigmentation works by depositing pigment into the upper dermal layer of the skin, located just beneath the epidermis. Understanding skin anatomy is essential for safe and effective treatments.

## THE SKIN HAS THREE PRIMARY LAYERS RELEVANT TO MICROPIGMENTATION:

### 1 EPIDERMIS

The outermost layer of the skin, which acts as a barrier.

Pigment deposited too superficially in the epidermis will fade rapidly, often within weeks, and may heal unevenly

### 2 BASAL LAYER

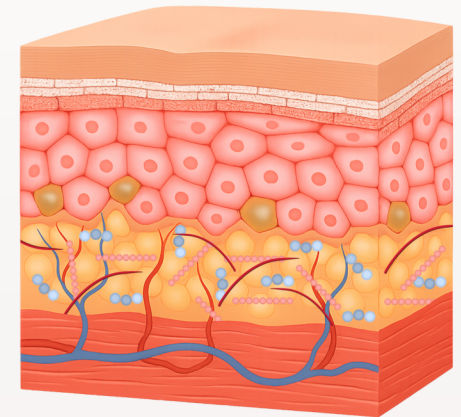
The deepest portion of the epidermis, where cells divide and regenerate.

Targeting pigment too shallowly here risks blurring or patchiness, particularly in delicate areas like lips and eyeliner.

### 3 UPPER DERMIS

The ideal depth for micropigmentation. The dermis is slightly thicker and contains collagen, elastin, and capillaries.

Placing pigment in the upper dermis ensures stable retention, natural blending, and longevity while reducing the risk of migration.



## KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIFFERENT TREATMENT AREAS:

- EYEBROWS** → Skin is slightly thinner than other facial areas, so needle depth must be precise to mimic natural hair strokes without over-saturating or causing trauma.
- LIPS** → Very thin, vascular tissue with a higher risk of swelling and bleeding. Pigment must be placed in the upper dermis to achieve even, lasting colour without over-penetrating.
- EYELINER/LASH ENHANCEMENT** → Eyelid skin is extremely thin and mobile. Shallow, controlled placement is essential to prevent pigment migration, irritation, or damage to the eye.

## FACTORS AFFECTING PIGMENT RETENTION:

- Skin type (oily, dry, or sensitive)
- Age and elasticity of the skin
- Healing response and aftercare
- Sun exposure and lifestyle habits
- Pigment formulation and needle configuration

## CONCLUSION:

Precise control of needle depth is the cornerstone of professional micropigmentation. Correct placement in the upper dermis allows for even healing, consistent colour, and long-lasting results, while minimising trauma and the risk of unwanted pigment migration or fading. Experienced practitioners adjust depth, speed, and pressure according to client anatomy and treatment area to achieve optimal outcomes.

# NEEDLES AND MACHINES

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The success of SPMU treatments - whether eyebrows, lips, or eyeliner - depends heavily on the correct selection and use of needles and machines. Both components must be chosen to suit the treatment area, skin type, and desired effect. Proper knowledge ensures precise pigment placement, reduces trauma, and improves healing and colour retention.

## MACHINES

SPMU machines are electric or rotary devices designed to implant pigment safely into the upper dermis.

- ADJUSTABLE NEEDLE SPEED** → Controls pigment saturation and precision.
- VARIABLE NEEDLE DEPTH** → Ensures pigment reaches the correct skin layer.
- ERGONOMIC DESIGN** → Reduces hand fatigue and allows steady control for fine work.
- COMPATIBILITY WITH DIFFERENT NEEDLE CARTRIDGES** → Enables flexibility across eyebrows, lips, and eyeliner treatments.

## TYPES OF MACHINES:

- ROTARY MACHINES** → Smooth, consistent motion; ideal for shading, soft blending, and natural hair strokes.
- COIL MACHINES** → Provide more forceful needle penetration; often used for dense shading or thicker skin but can be harsher on delicate areas.



## NEEDLES

SPMU needles come in a variety of configurations depending on the treatment area and desired effect:

### 1 NEEDLE TYPES

- ROUND LINERS (RL)** → Concentrated needles in a circle; used for fine lines, hair strokes, and precision work.
- ROUND SHADERS (RS)** → Similar to liners but slightly looser; used for soft shading and blending.
- FLAT / MAGNUM NEEDLES** → Multiple needles in a straight line; used for filling or soft shading larger areas, such as lips or eyebrow powder effects.

### 2 NEEDLE GAUGE

- FINER NEEDLES (E.G., 0.20-0.25MM)** → Used for delicate areas like eyeliner or fine hair strokes.
- THICKER NEEDLES (E.G., 0.30MM)** → Used for lips or denser shading.

### 3 NEEDLE STERILITY AND SAFETY

- Single-use, disposable needles must always be used to prevent infection or cross-contamination.
- Sterile handling and correct disposal are legally required and essential for client safety.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT NEEDLE AND MACHINE

- Eyebrows: Use fine liners for hair strokes; magnums or shaders for powder or ombré effects.
- Lips: Use small magnums or round shaders for even pigment saturation; needle depth must be precise due to thin skin.
- Eyeliner / Lash Enhancement: Use ultra-fine liners for smooth, precise application along the lash line



## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Skin type (sensitive, oily, thin, or thick)
- Area to be treated (delicate vs. larger area)
- Desired effect (natural, bold, shaded)
- Pigment viscosity and colour retention

Pigment selection is one of the most important factors in achieving natural, long-lasting SPMU results. Pigments are broadly classified into inorganic and organic types. Understanding the differences is essential for colour stability, skin safety, and overall treatment outcome. Both inorganic and organic pigments have distinct advantages and considerations. Understanding their properties allows SPMU practitioners to select the most appropriate pigment for each treatment area, ensuring safe, natural, and long-lasting results.

## INORGANIC PIGMENTS

### DESCRIPTION

- Mineral-based pigments, often containing iron oxides or titanium dioxide.
- Commonly used in eyebrows and eyeliner due to stability.

### CHARACTERISTICS

- Long-lasting: Very stable; less prone to fading or colour changes.
- Colour stability: Maintain natural tones over time; minimal risk of undertone shifts.
- Opacity: Typically more opaque, providing stronger coverage.
- Safety: Generally safe, low allergenic potential, suitable for sensitive skin.

### CONSIDERATIONS

- May appear slightly darker during healing and lighten over time.
- Less vibrant for lip blush; sometimes requires blending with organic pigments for softer tones.



## ORGANIC PIGMENTS

### DESCRIPTION

- Carbon-based pigments, often derived from plant extracts or synthetic compounds.
- Commonly used in lip blush and some soft shading techniques.

### CHARACTERISTICS

- Vibrant colour: Provides bright, soft, and natural-looking tones.
- Fades faster: More prone to fading or undertone shifts over time.
- Transparency: Softer coverage; ideal for blending and gradual effects.
- Allergenic potential: Slightly higher risk of reactions in sensitive clients; patch testing recommended.

### CONSIDERATIONS

- May change colour over time
- Eyebrows: Inorganic pigments preferred for hair strokes and longevity.
- Lips: Organic pigments are often chosen for their soft, natural blush and vibrant colour.
- Eyeliner: Inorganic pigments preferred for precision, stability, and longevity.

### OTHER FACTORS

- Skin type and Fitzpatrick scale
- Desired effect (natural vs bold)
- Healing response

## PRODUCTS NEEDED

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- Pigments
- Machines
- Machine Wraps
- Needles - 1RL/3RL
- Clinisept
- Numbing Cream
- Cotton Pads
- Clingfilm
- Powder
- Concealer
- Mapping Brushes
- Mapping String
- Lip Brushes
- Cottons Buds
- Mirrors
- Marker Pencils
- Balms or Glosses for Lips
- Pigment mixing cups
- Measuring Tools
- PPE



## PRE/POST ADVICE

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### PRE-TREATMENT ADVICE

**CLIENTS SHOULD FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES TO ENSURE OPTIMAL RESULTS AND REDUCE RISKS:**

- Avoid alcohol, caffeine, and blood-thinning medications (e.g., aspirin) 24 hours before treatment, unless medically advised.
- Do not take new skincare treatments (chemical peels, retinol, or laser treatments) on the treatment area within 2 weeks.
- Avoid sunburn or tanning prior to treatment.
- Do not pluck, wax, or tint brows at least 3-5 days before the appointment.
- Patch test if prone to allergies or using new pigments.
- Ensure the skin is clean and free of makeup or lotions.
- Inform the practitioner of any medical conditions, medications, or pregnancy.

### POST-TREATMENT ADVICE

**PROPER AFTERCARE IS CRUCIAL FOR HEALING, PIGMENT RETENTION, AND AVOIDING INFECTIONS:**

- Do not touch or pick at scabs; allow natural healing.
- Keep the area clean and dry for the first few days; use only recommended aftercare products.
- Avoid swimming, saunas, and excessive sweating for at least 7-10 days.
- Avoid direct sun exposure and tanning beds; use SPF once healed.
- Do not use exfoliating products or harsh chemicals on the area until fully healed.
- Expect some fading during the healing process; a top-up session may be required 6-12 weeks later.
- Follow aftercare instructions closely and contact the practitioner if signs of infection or unusual reactions occur.



Colour theory is a fundamental part of SPMU, as it ensures that pigments are selected and applied to create natural, flattering results. Proper understanding of undertones, skin tones, and pigment behaviour is essential for eyebrows, lip blush, and eyeliner treatments.

## SKIN UNDERTONES AND PIGMENT SELECTION

### 1 SKIN UNDERTONES

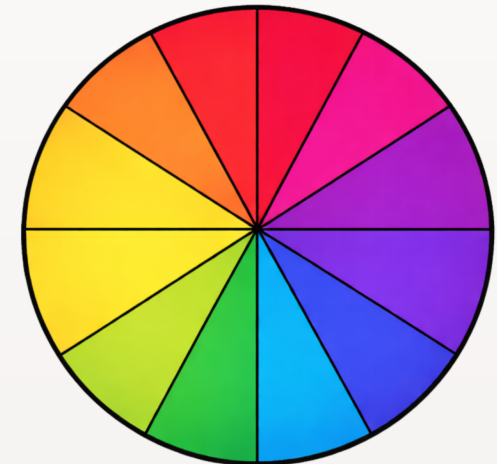
- Cool: Pink, red, or bluish undertones.
- Warm: Yellow, golden, or peachy undertones.
- Neutral: A balanced mix of warm and cool tones.

### 2 PIGMENT SELECTION

- Pigments should complement the client's natural undertone to avoid unnatural results.
- Eyebrows: Avoid pigments that are too warm for cool undertones (may appear orange) or too cool for warm undertones (may appear grey).
- Lips: Choose tints that enhance the natural lip colour while harmonising with skin undertone.
- Eyeliner: Black or brown pigments should be selected based on hair colour, eye colour, and skin undertone.

## PRIMARY AND SECONDARY COLOURS

- Primary colours: Red, yellow, and blue – used as a base for mixing pigments.
- Secondary colours: Green, orange, and purple – created by mixing primary colours.
- Understanding colour mixing allows practitioners to correct unwanted undertones, such as neutralising overly warm or cool pigments during treatment.



## COLOUR CORRECTION

### SPMU PIGMENTS MAY CHANGE OVER TIME DUE TO SKIN ABSORPTION, SUN EXPOSURE, OR FADING. COLOUR CORRECTION TECHNIQUES INCLUDE:

- Neutralising unwanted tones: e.g., adding cooler pigments to counteract warm fading.
- Layering complementary colours: Achieves the desired final shade while maintaining natural results.
- Patch testing and small trial areas: Ensures colour behaves as expected on the client's skin.

## PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Natural appearance: Always match pigments with natural hair and skin tones.
- Lighting: Always assess colours in natural light to avoid misjudging tone.
- Healing changes: Pigments often heal 30-50% lighter than applied; adjust initial colour choice accordingly.
- Mixing and storage: Use high-quality, compatible pigments; mix carefully to avoid contamination.

# FITZPATRICK SKIN TYPE SCALE

The Fitzpatrick Scale is a globally recognised classification system that identifies skin types based on their natural pigmentation and response to UV exposure. In SPMU, understanding a client's Fitzpatrick skin type is essential for pigment selection, machine settings, needle depth, and predicting healing and pigment retention.

## PRACTICAL APPLICATION IN SPMU

### PIGMENT SELECTION

- Fair skin may require softer, cooler pigments to avoid overly warm results.
- Darker skin may need richer pigments to maintain visibility and vibrancy.

### MACHINE AND NEEDLE SETTINGS

- Lighter skin may require shallower needle depth.
- Darker, thicker skin may require slightly deeper pigment placement and slower machine speed.

### HEALING AND RETENTION

- Fairer skin tends to show fading faster; may require earlier top-ups.
- Darker skin retains pigment longer but can show undertone shifts (e.g., ashy or blue tones) if pigment selection is incorrect.

### CONSULTATION

- Always assess the client's Fitzpatrick skin type before treatment.
- Consider medical history, skin sensitivity, and lifestyle factors in combination with skin type for optimal results.

The Fitzpatrick Scale is a critical tool for professional SPMU practitioners. Correct assessment ensures safe, effective, and natural-looking treatments, reduces the risk of pigment complications, and helps predict healing outcomes and long-term retention.



#### TYPE I

##### DESCRIPTION

Very fair, often with freckles

##### REACTION TO SUN

Always burns, never tans



#### TYPE II

##### DESCRIPTION

Fair

##### REACTION TO SUN

Usually burns, minimal tan



#### TYPE IV

##### DESCRIPTION

Olive

##### REACTION TO SUN

Rarely burns, tans easily



#### TYPE III

##### DESCRIPTION

Medium

##### REACTION TO SUN

Sometimes burns, tans gradually



#### TYPE V

##### DESCRIPTION

Brown

##### REACTION TO SUN

Very rarely burns, tans deeply



#### TYPE VI

##### DESCRIPTION

Dark brown/black

##### REACTION TO SUN

Never burns, deeply pigmented

## MAPPING TECHNIQUES

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### PIGMENT SELECTION

#### MEASURING CALIPERS OR RULERS

→ For precise distances and symmetry

#### DISPOSABLE EYEBROW/LIP PENCILS OR MARKERS

→ To outline shapes

#### STENCILS

→ Optional, for clients who prefer a pre-designed shape

#### MIRROR

→ To confirm the client is happy with the mapped shape

#### COTTON PADS AND WIPES

→ For corrections during mapping

## EYEBROW MAPPING TECHNIQUES

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### GOLDEN RATIO / RULE OF THIRDS

Divide the face into three vertical sections to guide brow placement relative to the eyes, nose, and forehead.

### POINT-TO-POINT MAPPING

#### IDENTIFY KEY POINTS

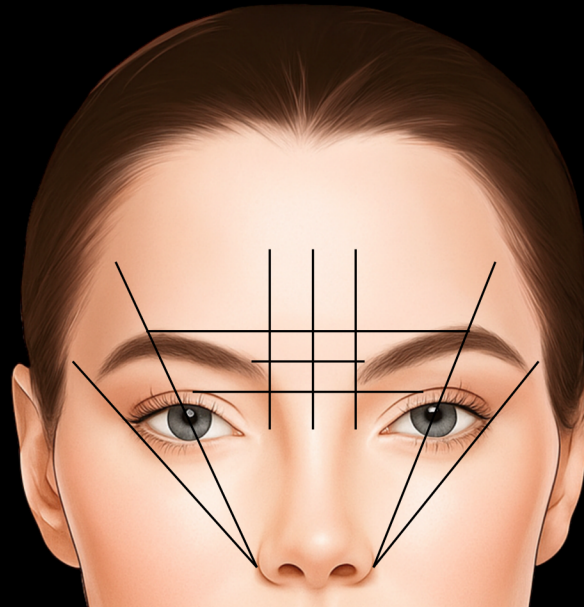
- Start: Side of the nose to inner brow
- Arch: Side of the nose through the pupil
- End: Side of the nose to outer corner of the eye
- Connect points to form the brow shape.

#### CALIPER MEASUREMENT

- Use calipers to measure and ensure symmetry between both brows.
- Measure distances from nose bridge, inner eye corner, and brow tails.

#### CLIENT CONSULTATION & APPROVAL

- Always check the mapped shape in a mirror.
- Make adjustments based on the client's facial features and preferences.



## LIP MAPPING TECHNIQUES

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### OUTLINE THE VERMILION BORDER

- Mark the natural edge of the lips as a guide for symmetry.

### DEFINE THE CUPID'S BOW AND CORNERS

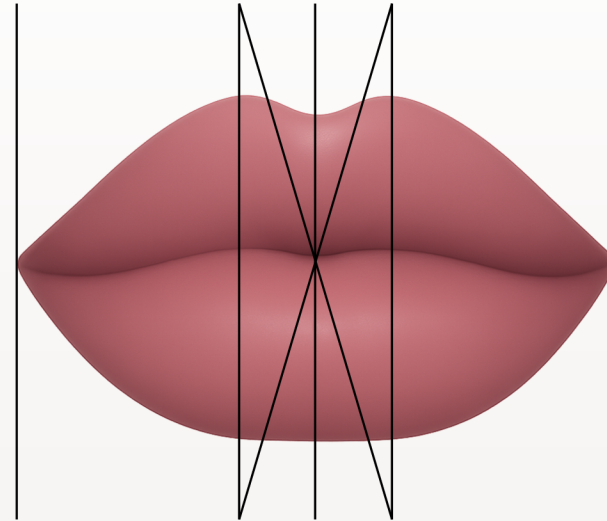
- Measure from the center to the corners to balance both sides.

### CHECK SYMMETRY WITH A RULER OR CALIPERS

- Ensure the width, height, and angles are equal on both sides.

### CLIENT FEEDBACK

- Have the client approve the outline before applying pigment.



## EYELINER MAPPING TECHNIQUES

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### MARK START AND END POINTS

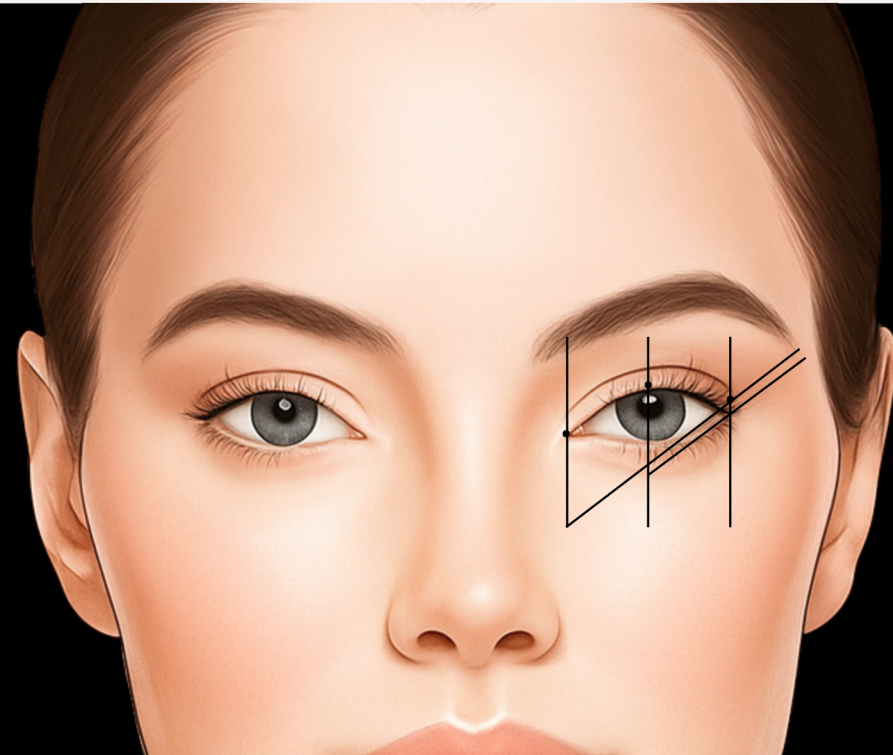
- Align the liner with the natural lash line.

### CHECK THICKNESS & SHAPE

- Mark areas for a soft or bold effect based on client preference.

### SYMMETRY CHECK

- Compare both eyes in a mirror; minor adjustments can be made before treatment.



Shading is a fundamental technique in micropigmentation used to create softness, depth, and dimension in eyebrows, lips, and other areas. Unlike hair-stroke or outline techniques, shading fills in areas to provide fuller, natural-looking colour and a polished appearance. Proper shading requires control of needle depth, machine speed, pigment type, and hand technique.

## TYPES OF SHADING

### POWDER/OMBRE SHADING (EYEBROWS)

- Creates a soft, powdered effect that is darker at the tail and fades naturally toward the front of the brow.
- Ideal for clients who want a makeup-like, filled-in look.
- Can be combined with hair strokes for a natural-ombre effect.

### LIP BLUSH SHADING

- Adds subtle colour, definition, and symmetry to the lips.
- Can be soft and natural or more vibrant, depending on pigment choice and client preference.
- Often uses small circular motions or layering to build up colour gradually.

### SOFT SHADING/FEATHERING

- Gentle, gradual shading used for blending, correcting gaps, or softening harsh lines.
- Can be applied to eyebrows, lips, or eyeliner to create a natural, subtle look.

### TEXTURED SHADING/3D EFFECT

- Creates depth and dimension by combining shading with fine strokes or layering different tones.
- Often used in advanced eyebrow designs to mimic natural hair density or highlight features.



## SHADING TECHNIQUES

### CIRCULAR/WHIPPING MOTION

- Used for soft, even coverage.
- Keeps pigment distributed without harsh lines.

### PENDULUM/LAYERING TECHNIQUE

- Applying multiple passes of pigment at a shallow depth to gradually build intensity.
- Useful for lip blush and eyebrow powder effects.

### GRADIENT/OMBRE TECHNIQUE

- Starts darker in certain areas and gradually fades to lighter tones for natural transition.
- Commonly used in eyebrow and lip shading for a soft, modern look.

### STIPLING/DOTTING

- Tiny, controlled dots applied in layers.
- Creates soft texture and is effective for subtle shading or filling in sparse areas.

Layering passes are a core technique in machine micropigmentation used to build colour gradually, evenly, and safely. Rather than depositing heavy pigment in a single pass, layering allows the practitioner to work in multiple controlled passes to achieve soft saturation, better healing, and long-lasting results. This technique is essential for eyebrows, lip blush, and eyeliner treatments.

## WHAT ARE LAYERING PASSES?

Layering passes refer to the process of applying pigment in several light, controlled passes over the same area, allowing the skin to accept pigment progressively. Each pass deposits a small amount of pigment into the upper dermis, reducing trauma and improving colour retention.

## HOW LAYERING PASSES WORK?

### FIRST PASS - BASE LAYER

- Applied lightly and shallow.
- Establishes the initial shape and soft foundation colour.
- Allows the practitioner to assess skin response and pigment uptake.

### SECOND PASS - BUILDING SATURATION

- Adds depth and density where required.
- Still performed with light pressure to avoid overworking the skin.
- Focuses on even coverage and blending.

### ADDITIONAL PASSES - REFINEMENT

- Used selectively, not over the entire area.
- Enhances specific zones such as brow tails, lip borders, or lash lines.
- Helps correct patchiness or uneven pigment absorption.

## MACHINE CONTROL AND TECHNIQUE?

### SPEED

Slower speeds allow better pigment control during layering.

### DEPTH

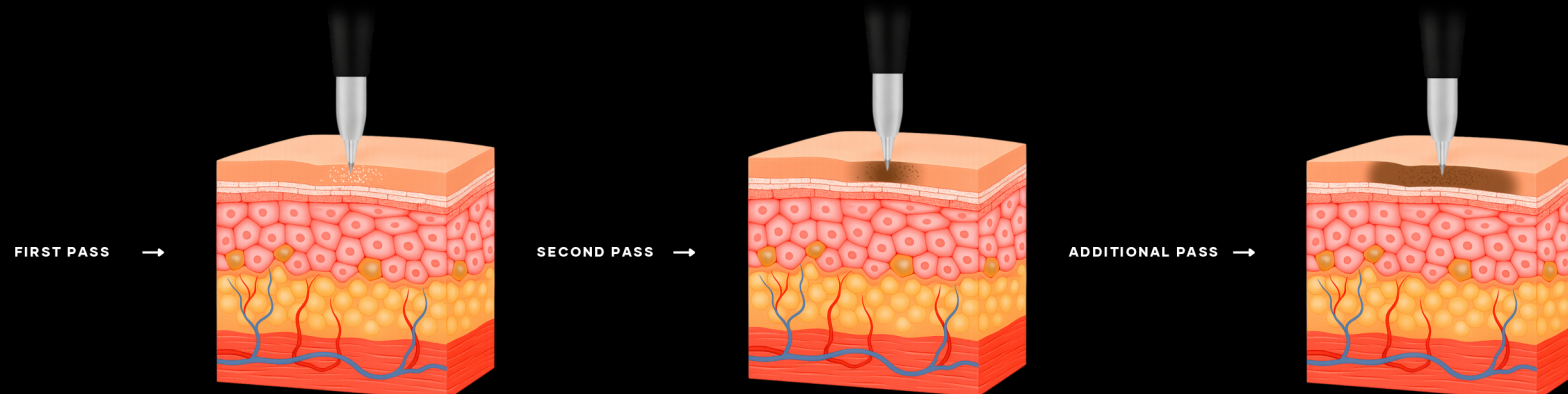
Always remain in the upper dermis; depth should not increase with each pass.

### PRESSURE

Use consistent, light pressure throughout all passes.

### MOVEMENT

Circular, whipping, or pendulum motions are commonly used to evenly layer pigment



## HEALING PROCESS

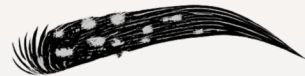
The healing process in SPMU occurs as the skin repairs itself after pigment has been implanted into the upper dermis. Immediately after treatment, the area may appear darker, slightly swollen, and red due to mild trauma to the skin. Over the first few days, the skin begins to regenerate, and light scabbing or flaking may occur as the epidermis sheds excess pigment.

During healing, pigments can appear 30-50% darker initially, then lighten as the skin renews itself. Some colour loss is normal, as only pigment correctly placed in the upper dermis will remain. Over the following weeks, the colour softens and stabilises as the skin fully heals, typically within 4-6 weeks. This is why a top-up session is recommended—to reinforce pigment, correct any uneven retention, and perfect the final result. Proper aftercare and correct implantation depth are essential to ensure even healing, good colour retention, and long-lasting results.



### DAY 1 - FRESH TREATMENT (IMMEDIATELY AFTER)

- Area appears darker, bolder, and more defined
- Mild redness and swelling is normal
- Pigment sits sharply in the skin due to open channels



### DAYS 4-7 - FLAKING & SHEDDING

- Skin begins to flake or lightly scab
- Pigment may appear to fade significantly as flakes shed
- Itching is common (must not be scratched)



### WEEKS 3-4 - COLOUR RE-EMERGENCE

- Pigment gradually resurfaces as skin settles
- Colour becomes more even and natural
- Shape and tone are now clearer



### DAYS 2-3 - INITIAL HEALING

- Colour remains dark and may look intense
- Tightness, tenderness, and dryness may occur
- Light scabbing or flaking can begin



### DAYS 8-14 - GHOSTING PHASE

- Pigment may appear very light or almost invisible
- This is due to new skin forming over the pigment
- Clients often worry at this stage — reassurance is important



### WEEKS 4-6 - FULLY HEALED

- Final colour is visible (usually 30-50% lighter than day one)
- Ready for top-up session if required



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