

## How are Sunglasses Made?

The primary function of sunglasses is to protect your eyes from the sun's harmful rays. However, a pair of sunglasses has become so much more than that over time: now it's an accessory to complement any outfit. Whether you choose aviators, cat eyes, or something in between, a specialized process is used to create those beloved shades.



### *Lenses*

Lenses can be made from a variety of materials, but most prescription sunglasses have polycarbonate lenses. A polycarbonate lens is a strong, lightweight lens that has been tinted with a special dye. This dye helps to block rays emitted from the sun. After the lens has been tinted, it is shaped. The shape is determined by the frame. Finally, the shaped lenses are put into a curve generator to grind each lens to fit your prescription. Once the lenses have been tinted, shaped, and ground, an additional layer of protection is added for UV protection and they're ready to be put into a great pair of frames.

### *Frames*

Frames can also be made from many materials, but the most common are metal and plastic. Metal frames, such as aviators and clubmasters, are typically made from lightweight and durable materials like titanium. Plastic frames, like cat eyes and wayfarer, are made from cellulose acetates or nylon-based acetates. The manufacturing process is as follows:

## **Metal Frames**

1. A machine cuts wire from a large spool to create the desired lens shape.
2. A small groove is created where the lenses will eventually set.
3. The bridge and end pieces of the frame are cut from the spool.
4. Each piece is carefully fused together.
5. The lenses are inserted and the bows are attached.

## **Plastic Frames**

1. Liquid acetates are poured into molds to set.
2. The hardened plastic is removed from the mold to be buffed.
3. The lenses are “popped” into the frame.

*Now you know the ins and outs of sunglass production. Next time you're choosing a great pair, take a minute to think about more than just how it accessorizes your outfit. Think about how it was made and the protection it's providing for you.*

**Meta Title:** The Sunglass Process from Start to Finish

**Meta Description:** A blog detailing the process of how sunglasses are made from start to finish.

**Target Keyword:** sunglasses, made

**Secondary Keyword** (optional): N/A

**Post Metatags:** sunglasses, lens, frames

