



Fitzpatrick Skin Type

The most commonly used scheme to classify a person's skin type by their response to sun exposure in terms of the degree of burning and tanning was developed by Thomas B. Fitzpatrick*, MD, PhD. Examples are given below.

* Fitzpatrick, T.B. (1988) The validity and practicality of sun reactive skin types I through VI. Arch Dermatol 124; 869-871.

Eye colour

- 0. Light colours
- 1. Blue, gray or green
- 2. Dark
- 3. Brown
- 4. Black

Natural hair colour

- 0. Sandy red
- 1. Blond
- 2. Chestnut or dark blond
- 3. Brown
- 4. Black

Your skin colour (unexposed areas)

- 0. Reddish
- 1. Pale
- 2. Beige or olive
- 3. Brown
- 4. Dark brown

Freckles (unexposed areas)

- 0. Many
- 1. Several
- 2. Few
- 3. Rare
- 4. None

If you stay in the sun too long?

- 0. Painful blisters, peeling
- 1. Mild blisters, peeling
- 2. Burn, mild peeling
- 3. Rare
- 4. No burning

Do you turn brown?

- 0. Never
- 1. Seldom
- 2. Sometimes
- 3. Often
- 4. Always

How brown do you get?

- 0. Never
- 1. Light tan
- 2. Medium tan
- 3. Dark tan
- 4. Deep dark

Is your face sensitive to the sun?







- 0. Very sensitive
- 1. Sensitive
- 2. Sometimes
- 3. Resistant
- 4. Never have a problem

How often do you tan?

- 0. Never
- 1. Seldom
- 2. Sometimes
- 3. Often
- 4. Always

When was your last tan?

- 0. +3 months ago
- 1. 2-3 months ago
- 2. 1-2 months ago
- 3. Weeks ago
- 4. Days

Score		
0-6	Skin Type I	
Always burns, never tans (pale white skin)		
7-13	Skin Type II	
Always burns easily, tans minimally (white skin)		
14-20	Skin Type III	
Burns moderately, tans uniformly (light brown skin)		
21-27	Skin Type IV	
Burns minimally, always tans well (moderate brown skin)		
28-34	Skin Type V	
Rarely burns, tans profusely (dark brown skin)		
35+	Skin Type VI	
Never burns (deeply pigmented dark brown to black skin)		