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The Ergo Loupe Buyer's Checklist

Not all ergo loupes are created equally.

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A practical, clinician-focused guide
to selecting ergonomic loupes that protect
your neck and your visual system.

Table of Contents

➔	The Hidden Problem	1
➔	To Ergo or Not to Ergo...	3
➔	Why Some Ergo Loupes Fail Clinicians	5
➔	My Ergo Loupes Experience	7
➔	What Matters Most in Your Next Ergo Loupe?	9
➔	Why Exhibit Hall Trials Are Not Enough	11
➔	Why a Real-World Trial Period Matters	13
➔	The Clinical Buyer Checklist	15





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PART 1

The Hidden Problem

When design is NOT for vision.



The Hidden Problem

- ① **The problem is often optical design, not clinician adaptation**
- ② **Many clinicians invest in ergo loupes, but struggle to acclimate to them because of:**
 - Eye strain
 - Headaches
 - Motion discomfort
 - Visual distortion



87% of dental professionals suffer from some form of eye strain.

Ergonomic posture should not come at the cost of visual comfort.



PART 2

To Ergo or Not to Ergo

The real question.



To Ergo or Not to Ergo

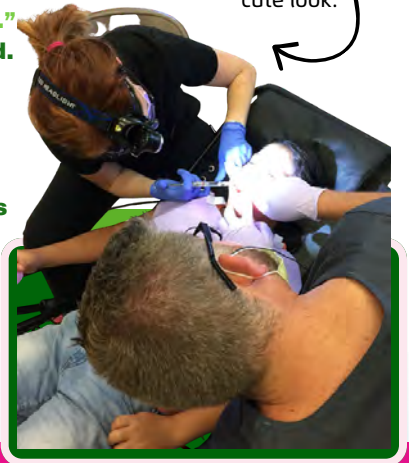
For years, I wore loupes thinking I had my ergonomics dialed in. **In my mind**, I was sitting up straight, protecting my body, doing all the “right” things. Then I saw the photos... and let’s just say: my posture had other plans.

That was my wake-up call.

So I made the shift to ergonomic loupes: the kind that **force you to sit upright**. And at first, I thought, “**This is it. Problem solved.**” But then something unexpected happened. While my posture improved, I started noticing something else... **eye fatigue, tension, that subtle feeling of “why does this feel harder than it should?”** That’s when I realized: not all ergo loupes are created equally.

So now the question becomes:
To ergo or not to ergo?
Stay tuned.

That’s me: not a cute look.



Eyestrain is the most common occupational hazard in dentistry

Second to eyestrain is **lower back pain**



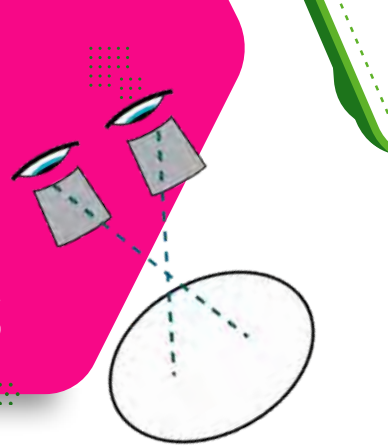
PART 3

Why Some Ergo Loupes Fail Clinicians

What most designs miss.



Why Some Ergo Loupes Fail Clinicians



This is where telescope orientation and design become critical.

- ① **Most ergo loupes use traditional methods to align the images - angling the telescopes by rotating them towards one another.**

Clinicians often remark: "I couldn't get used to them"

- ② **Optical bending can introduce:**
 - Convergence distortion
 - Image rotation
 - Fusion difficulty
 - Visual fatigue
- ③ **The result of aligning them in this way:**
 - Eye strain
 - Double vision
 - Motion sensitivity
 - Headaches
 - Shadows
 - Fatigue

If your loupes take several days to get accustomed to, you are likely compensating for your loupes as opposed to having them work for you.



PART 4

My Ergo Loupes Experience

Posture and optical protection.



My Ergo Loupes Experience

It turns out, it's not just ergonomic posture...it's about ergonomic optics! The **Infinity VUE loupes** were superior:

- ① Straight-mounted telescopes (no rotating/angling)
- ① Patented optical configuration
- ① Achromatically coated wedge prism aligns images
- ① Alleviates convergence distortion on the visual field
- ① Focus on visual stability + image fusion comfort

I tried on the **Infinity VUE**: an ergo loupe differentiated by design yet validated by practice



Clear visualization with straight-mounted telescopes



Distorted visualization with rotated + angled telescopes



Patented U.S. optical design platform



PART 5

What Matters Most in Your Ergo Loupe?

Loupes that protect you.



What Matters Most in Your Ergo Loupe?

Check all that apply, this will help you choose the right optical design.

Visual Comfort

- ☐ Minimal eye strain
- ☐ Stable image
- ☐ No motion discomfort
- ☐ Easy depth perception

Evaluation Experience

- ☐ Real clinical trial period
- ☐ Not just exhibit hall demo
- ☐ Returns/exchanges are NOT situational

Clinical Performance

- ☐ Crisp image clarity
- ☐ Edge-to-edge sharpness
- ☐ Consistent magnification

Adaptation Experience

- ☐ Easy to get used to
- ☐ Comfortable for long procedures
- ☐ No headaches after use

Pro Tip:
read the
fine print
on loupe
returns and
exchanges.





PART 6

Why Exhibit Hall Trials Are Not Enough

A 5-minute trial is a sample.



Why Exhibit Hall Trials Are Not Enough

If you only try ergo loupes under exhibit hall lighting for five minutes—you're not testing them.
YOU'RE SAMPLING THEM.

- ① 5-minute booth demo $\neq$ real adaptation
- ① Visual fatigue develops over hours, not minutes
- ① Distortion discomfort is cumulative
- ① Real-world clinical wear reveals true performance



Pictured:
Infinity VUE
Loupes from
Designs for
Vision

An in-office fitting allows you to take advantage of the full trial period.



PART 7

Why a Real-World Trial Period Matters

Testing for long term use.



Why a Real-World Trial Period Matters



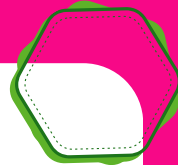
A 5-minute demo can feel fine, but true performance is revealed hours into real patient care. A **real world trial permits you to test your ergo loupes **IN DIRECT PATIENT CARE, TESTING:****

- 🕒 **Different procedures**
- 🕒 **Different days**
- 🕒 **Different lighting**



Katrina's Pro Tip:

You don't feel chronic eye strain in five minutes...it develops over time.



PART 8

The Clinical Buyer Checklist

Compare Before You Commit.



The Clinical Buyer Checklist

Compare Before You Commit

Instructions:

Use this scorecard to compare your current loupes, any ergo loupe you test, and the **InfinityVUE system which I personally recommend**.

Evaluate based on real clinical wear, not just a booth demo.

Rate each category from 1 (**POOR**) to 5 (**EXCELLENT**) after meaningful use.

Visual & Optical Performance

Evaluation Category	Your Current Loupes	Other Ergo Loupe Tested	InfinityVUE
• Image clarity across full field	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Edge-to-edge sharpness	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Depth perception stability	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Image feels visually "stable"	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Easy image fusion (no double feel)	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

Ergonomic Performance

Evaluation Category	Your Current Loupes	Other Ergo Loupe Tested	InfinityVUE
• Neutral head posture	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Neck/shoulder comfort	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Indirect vision ease	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Consistency of working posture	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

Optical Design Questions (Check Yes/No)

Optical Design Factor	Your Current Loupes	Other Ergo Loupe Tested	InfinityVUE
• Straight telescope mounting	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Uses prism bending of telescope	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Distortion-control optical design	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Patent-protected optical system	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No

The Clinical Buyer Checklist

Compare Before You Commit

Visual Comfort After Extended Wear

Evaluation Category	Your Current Loupes	Other Ergo Loupe Tested	InfinityVUE
• Eye fatigue at end of procedure	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Headache or pressure sensation	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Motion sensitivity	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Ease of visual adaptation	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5
• Comfort by end of workday	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5

Real-World Evaluation Conditions

Trial Factor	Your Current Loupes	Other Ergo Loupe Tested	InfinityVUE
• Tested only in exhibit hall	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Tested in real patient care	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Worn $\geq$ 1 full clinical day	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Multi-week adaptation period	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No
• Formal trial program available	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No	☐ Yes ☐ No

Pro Tip:

Evaluate how your loupes feel after $\geq$ 2 clinical hours; not a short demo. A 'real life' trial will tell you if your loupes can withstand supporting you through your clinical schedule.



COMPARE BEFORE YOU COMMIT.



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Scan Me

NOT ALL ERGO LOUPES ARE CREATED
EQUALLY. TRUST YOUR EYES.