



Breast Reconstruction

If your breast was removed during surgery, you may choose to have breast reconstruction to help restore the look and feel of your breast. It may be done at the time of your first surgery or at another time. This choice will depend on your wishes and your doctor's recommendation. You should discuss your options with your doctor. Answers to these questions will help you understand reconstructive surgery.

Q: What are my reconstruction options? What type do you suggest?

A:

Q: When should I have reconstruction — now or later? Why?

A:

Q: What are the short and long-term effects of the different types of reconstruction?

A:

Q: What are the risks or side effects?

A:

Q: How many surgeries will I need?

A:

Q: How long is each surgery? How long will I be in the hospital?

A:

Q: How long will it take for me to heal?

A:

Q: How will my reconstructed breast look and feel? How will it compare with my other breast? Will I need surgery on the other breast?

A:

Q: Are you a board-certified plastic surgeon? May I see pictures of reconstructive surgeries that you have done?

A:

Q: If my breast cancer came back, how would I know? What should I look for?

A:

Q: After reconstruction, will I still need a yearly mammogram?

A:

Q: If I choose not to have reconstruction, what are my options? Can I use a breast prosthesis? Where can I buy them? Will insurance pay for them?

A:



For more information on breast health or breast cancer, please call our breast care helpline (1-877-465-6636) or visit our website. Susan G. Komen does not provide medical advice.

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