



1-800 LOOK GREAT

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Spider veins, or “starbursts,” are so named because these tiny veins just beneath the skin often radiate out from a central point, reminiscent of the shape of a spider. They may also appear as fine, separate lines, as a web-like maze, or as “branches” from a single “trunk” of a tree-shaped form. Spider veins are also called telangiectasias. Spider veins can develop on any part of the body, including the face, thighs, calves, and ankles. Spider veins can be hormonally induced and associated with pregnancy and menstruation however it is not uncommon for men to e however it is not uncommon for men to experience spider veins as well as family history and aging tend to increase ones tendency to develop spider veins.

Although their exact cause is unknown, it is known that spider veins are related to abnormal blood flow in the affected veins. Any condition or activity that puts pressure on leg veins (e.g., gaining weight and sitting or standing for long periods of time), can contribute to their development. In women, spider veins often appear during pregnancy. Other contributing factors include sustaining an injury in the affected area, taking medications that affect hormones, such as birth control pills, advanced age, and a family history of spider veins. Spider veins on the nose or face, which typically appear as unsightly red or pink clusters, may also be related to overexposure to the sun.