



BERMAN SKIN INSTITUTE

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Aspect	Shaving	Electrolysis	Waxing	Laser Hair Removal
How long will hair removal last?	1-2 days.	Long term, nearly permanent.	2-4 weeks between appointments.	Permanent hair reduction.
Relative cost?	Cost of razors, shaving cream, time consuming.	Very expensive, very time consuming, one-by-one treatment procedures long-term costs.	Moderate per treatment, but recurrent treatments produce high long-term costs.	Moderate cost, least costly method over long term.
Number of hairs removed per treatment?	Large area.	Few, hair-by-hair.	Moderately large area depending on tolerance for discomfort.	Large area.
Time required for each treatment?	5-20 minutes, every 1 or 2 days.	1-2 hours per treatment, with many, many treatments required.	10 minutes to 1 hour. Every few weeks.	30-90 minutes per treatment. 4-6 treatments typically required for near total hair removal.
Recurring hair growth?	Always.	Minimal.	Nearly always.	Negligible, but varies depending on skin and hair type.
Stubble?	Severe. Stiff and sharp.	Little or none.	Soft, tapered hair re-growth.	None.
Size of area treated per session?	As much as desired.	Small area (one follicle at a time).	Moderate. Time consuming.	Large areas.
Discomfort?	None, if no cuts.	Very painful.	Moderately painful.	Mild-moderate discomfort, reduced by topical anesthesia.
Color of hair that can be treated?	All.	All.	All.	Dark hair. (Not effective for blonde, white or gray hair.)
Typical complications?	Potential for razor cuts, ingrown hairs, folliculitis.	Potential for infection and scarring, rare. Requires sterile needles to preclude the spread of HIV, etc.	Potential wax burns, inflammation.	Potential for scars and burns, extremely rare.