



## Visual Symptoms Highly Associated with ASD

- Gaze aversion
- Turning head, looking out of corner of eye
- Being attracted to shiny surfaces or mirrors
- Prolonged fixating on light patterns, windows, or blinds
- Hyper fixating on one object while ignoring other objects in the room
- Always prefers/avoids a particular color
- Shows distorted body postures or orientation including arching back, hyperextension of neck
- Toe walking
- Touches all surfaces (walls, furniture, etc.) when in an unfamiliar environment
- Anxiety or avoidance associated with fast moving objects or animals
- Spinning objects close to face
- Intense light sensitivity
- Poor attention to one's surroundings as well as a lack of interest in one's environment
- Preference for looking at objects (or parts of objects) rather than people

## Visual Symptoms Included in the Screening/Diagnosis of ASD

- Poor eye contact
- Excessively lines up toys or other objects
- Fidgets with objects repetitively
- Maintains interest in spinning objects for periods greater than a couple of minutes
- Does not follow where someone else is looking
- Walks on tiptoe
- Flicking fingers or hands near face
- Stares at nothing with no apparent purpose
- Excessive interest limited to a single toy

Excerpted from: Understanding the Visual Symptoms of Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)  
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