### Mayo Clinic Minute: What are eye floaters?

<table>
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| b-roll of eyes  
  eye floater illustration | TAKE 1  
  Having vision problems? Do you see black or gray specks, strings or cobwebs that drift about when you move your eyes? It could be eye floaters. |
| Continue illustration through the first part of the SOT | |
| **Amir Khan, M.D.**  
  **Ophthalmology**  
  **Mayo Clinic** | “In the back of our eyes, we have a substance called ‘the vitreous.’ When we’re young, it’s a firm clump of jelly. As we age, this firm clump of jelly can liquefy and break up into smaller pieces. Those smaller pieces are what you may notice as floaters.” |
| **Dr. Khan**  
  **SULL0001**  
  **02:56** | |
| b-roll of patient talking to doctor  
  retinal tear illustration | TAKE 2  
  Eye floaters are more common as you get older and if you’re nearsighted. The biggest concern, they can cause retinal tears. |
| | “If a tear develops in the retina, fluid can get in underneath that tear and just lift the retina off like wallpaper off a wall. And that’s a retinal detachment.” |
| b-roll of eye exam | TAKE 1  
  And that can cause blindness, which is why it’s especially important to have a dilated eye exam within days of noticing new floaters or changes in vision. |
| b-roll of eyes, exam | TAKE 1  
  Most eye floaters don’t require treatment, but your eye doctor likely will recommend regular eye exams to ensure the condition doesn’t worsen. |
| | TAKE 1  
  For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Jason Howland. |