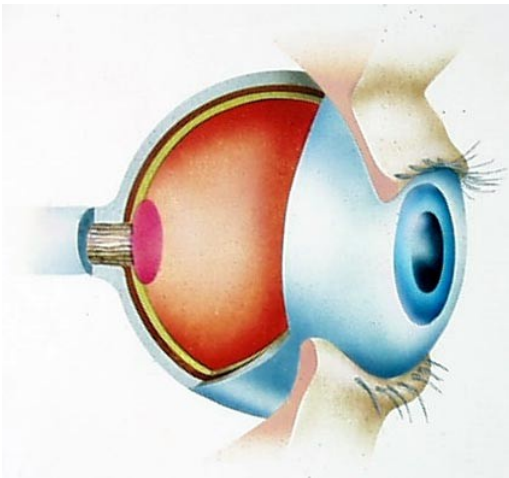
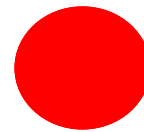
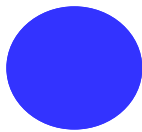




# Blind Spot

**Do you like magic? Want to learn how to make these dots disappear?**

Put this paper out in front of your body where you can still see it. Now, close your left eye. With your right eye, look at the **blue** dot. Keep staring at the **blue** dot until the **red** dot disappears. You might have to move the page a little to the right or left to find your blind spot. Did it work? Now close your right eye. With your left eye, look at the **red** dot. Keep staring at the **red** dot until the **blue** dot disappears. Did it work? Did you know you had a blind spot in the back of your eye? Try making your own blind spot experiment. You can do it with dots and + signs if you like.



**What's happening?**

See the pinkish spot in the back of the eye? That's your blind spot it is called a scotoma (sko-tow-ma). The long tubes sticking out the back are the optic nerves. Those send signals back to the brain to tell your brain what you're seeing. The little optic disc in the middle doesn't see light, that's why you have a blind spot. All vertebrates (ver-tuh-breys) (animals with spinal cords and backbones) have blind spots but cephalopods (sef-ul-o-pahds) (octopus, squid, and cuttlefish) don't.