

## THE 'RULE OF THIRDS'

*This line drawing illustrates the 'rule of thirds' when analyzing facial aesthetics. This pattern of facial dimensions was described by Leonardo da Vinci.*

The value of a natural and well positioned hairline and the significance of frontal hair volume in framing the face are frequently overlooked aspects of attractive facial proportion and overall facial aesthetics. When you will undergo a hair restoration surgery your surgeon will extensively discuss these aspects before designing your hairline. Therefore it is important to understand that the following aesthetic principles may be considered:

An attractive and proportionate face has been defined by the 'rule of thirds'. This principle states that in most attractive faces, forehead height should be one third of the total height of the face and approximately equal in height to the mid and lower face. The best balance of facial aesthetics exists when the face can be divided into three equal horizontal dimensions: from the chin to the bottom of the nose, from the bottom of the nose to the brow, and from the brow to the hairline (see below). If certain facial features are out of proportion to others, the overall facial harmony can be improved by bringing these aspects of the facial features back into proportion.

