



Crowns and Bridges

Crowns are strong, aesthetically pleasing covers placed over the base of the natural tooth to strengthen and protect the remaining tooth structure.

Bridges are multiple crowns linked together to replace one or more missing teeth.

During your visit we will shape the tooth/teeth, take impressions, and place a temporary crown/bridge. The temporary crown/bridge is made of plastic that allows you to function normally; however to prevent the temporary from breaking or coming off, **you should avoid eating hard and/or sticky foods.** If your temporary crown/bridge comes off, replace the temporary over the existing tooth/teeth using Fixodent. This should provide enough suction to adhere the temporary in place. The purpose of the temporary crown is to reserve the space for the final crown. If you leave the temporary crown off and come in for the final seating of the crown later. The permanent crown may not fit and new impression will need to be taken.

It is important to keep the crown/bridge site clean. **Use warm salt-water rinses several times a day to keep your gums from becoming inflamed and tender when biting/chewing.** If this persists for longer than three to four days, call us. Often a simple adjustment will bring relief.

At your second visit the temporary crown/bridge is removed and the final restoration is cemented into place. After placement you may experience tenderness when biting/chewing. If this persists for longer than three days, call us. Often a simple adjustment will bring relief to your bite. For teeth that have not had root canal therapy mild sensitivity to hot and cold after the placement of the final restoration is normal. The size and location of the restoration influences how the tooth/teeth react. If you are having continuing sensitivity and pain to temperature and/or bite, root canal therapy may be needed. The doctor will inform you of this possibility.

Crowns and bridges are long lasting; however factors such as bite strength, check-up frequency, diet, genetics, and home care affect their longevity.

Your comfort is top priority. If you have any questions, call us.