

Rest Prepping

Please consider these rest prepping techniques!

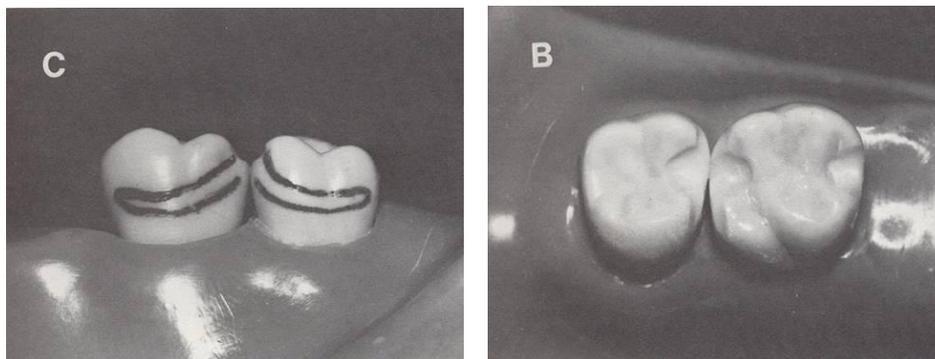
Prepping teeth is a study that is beyond the scope of this site. There are however, a few things we can discuss to help keep us all out of trouble and produce excellent results for the patient.

I -bars: A mesial rest is always a great option for either upper or lower bicuspsids. Consider that rarely is the mesial-occlusal area of #21 and #28 ever in occlusion. Prepping may not be necessary here.

Akers: A distal rest is customary with a retentive buccal and lingual reciprocal arm. Consider a mesial rest as in the RPA clasp. Please check the opposing teeth for clearance.

Cuspids: Upper cuspids require an evaluation of the opposing clearance. We find a mesial rest with slight reduction gingivally for room usually meets all the requirements and allows for a variety of clasp designs including aesthetic clasps. Lower cuspids are much easier as occlusal problems typically don't exist. We like the simplicity of a chevron rest on these teeth.

Double Akers (crib clasp): These are all too often a problem. We need a minimum of 1.5 mm clearance for these as in the illustration. We often receive "dots" in the center of the occlusion leaving little, if any, room for the clasp assembly to clear the opposing. Please cut through buccal-lingually as shown.



An important note on reducing opposing tooth: We spend a lot of time to make sure our frames are not bulky and are free of occlusal interference. We make the rest areas as thin as the alloy will allow. When shallow prepping leaves us insufficient room to accomplish this we are forced to remove from the opposing. We always mark this in red on your model in the hopes the natural dentition will be reduced as indicated. Grinding on the frame to free up the occlusion will void the warranty and significantly impair the frame or reduce its effective life. Crowns and fixed bridges can be the most difficult to adjust. Please call before final impressions so we can discuss the alternatives. Thanks.