

Crown/Bridge

Did you just get a crown or bridge with us? Below, you can read about what to expect during your treatment as well as find tips on how to make sure your restoration truly lasts. If you have any questions after reading this page, be sure to let us know.

- Local Anesthesia
 - Every patient becomes unnumb at different rates. Most patients will feel numb approximately two hours following the appointment. Avoid chewing on your tongue, lip, or cheek to prevent injury to these areas.
 - Avoid chewing or drinking hot beverages until the numbness wears off.
- Temporary Crown/Bridge
 - Avoid chewing sticky foods such as gum and caramel.
 - Avoid hard and crunchy foods to keep the temporary crown/bridge from breaking.
 - Brush as you normally would, but when flossing; pull the floss through rather than lift up to avoid loosening the temporary.
 - If your temporary comes off between appointments, please call the office for advisement or an appointment to recement the temporary.
- Bite
 - After placing your new crown/bridge, it may take a few days to get used to.
 - The finished restoration may be contoured a bit differently and have a different texture than what you were used to with your tooth. Your tongue will become accustomed to the new crown/bridge in a few days.
 - Do not chew ice or other hard objects. Avoid chewing very sticky food/candy because they can remove crowns.
 - If it feels like you are touching your new crown first or you just can't get all of your teeth together comfortably after a few days, call the office for advisement or an appointment.
- Sensitivity
 - It is normal to experience some sensitivity to cold, hot, and pressure following the procedure. These symptoms will lessen within a few days to a few weeks. As long as the sensitivity continues to improve, there is no need for concern.
 - Use a sensitive toothpaste to help decrease the sensitivity. It will take up to a few weeks for the sensitive toothpaste to take full effect.
- Gum discomfort
 - Following the procedure, your gums may be tender. The gum tissue surrounding the filling and tooth, your jaw joint, as well as the area where the anesthetic was placed, can be irritated and sore for a few days. This is normal and will subside in 2 – 5 days.
 - If you are able to take ibuprofen, take two tablets every 6-8 hours for two days to alleviate the inflammation and reduce the soreness. Otherwise take one tab of Tylenol.
 - Rinse with warm salt water
- Home Care
 - Although the crown/bridge is quite durable, the tooth is still vulnerable to decay. It is important to resume regular brushing and flossing as well as regular dental visits. This will increase the longevity of your new crown or bridge.
 - Often small problems that are developing around the restorations can be found at an early stage and corrected easily, but, waiting for a longer time may require redoing the

entire restoration. Inadequate return for examination is the most common reason for crown/bridge failure.

- If any of the following occur, contact us immediately to avoid further problems:
 - Movement or looseness in the restoration
 - Sensitivity to sweet foods or temperature that lingers 1-2 minutes
 - Peculiar taste from the restoration site
 - Breakage of a piece of material from the restoration
 - Sensitivity to biting pressure