



CROWN AND BRIDGE OVERVIEW AND POST-CARE

Today your tooth was prepared for a crown or a bridge. One of the impressions taken of your teeth will be sent to our dental laboratory. The lab will then fabricate a final bridge, or crown and you will need to return to our office within 2-3 weeks for the fitting and delivery of your final bridge, or crown. During the interim period:

1. Your gums will appear discolored around your temporary. The discoloration will resolve within several days. Your continued hygiene is important for optimum healing. Warm salt water rinses (teaspoon salt mixed with 8-10 oz. of warm water, and swish for 1 minute) will be very helpful for the next several days. During this time you should continue to brush your teeth normally; however, while the gum area is healing you may find it helpful to run your toothbrush bristles under hot water before brushing around your temporary bridge or crown. You may need to continue these procedures for 2-7 days.
2. Your temporary bridge, or crown, needs special care. Sticky foods such as: chewing gum, taffy, etc need to be avoided, since these foods may dislodge your temporary. You must wear your temporary at all times. If your temporary should come off, fill the hollow inside portion of the crown with Vaseline and press back on with your finger. This will hold your temporary in place, but you must call our office and schedule an appointment to have it re-cemented.
3. You may floss your temporary crown. Ease the floss down between the contacts, and clean up and down gently. Next, pull the floss out between the teeth, **DO NOT PULL BACK UP.** If you have a temporary bridge you will have to wait until your permanent bridge is delivered before you can clean underneath the missing tooth.
4. You may experience some sensitivity to cold drinks and brushing along the gum line of your temporary crown. The temporary cement used does not seal the tooth and the temporary crown completely, which allows the gum to heal better. Once we deliver final crown, this will no longer persist.
5. Advil or Tylenol is sufficient to relieve any discomfort. We recommend that you take some immediately, and for the rest of the day. If a medication has been prescribed, take as directed.

If you have any questions or experience a significant soreness, please contact our office as soon as possible at 847-492-3492.