



Post Operative Care

Crown & Bridges

Crowns and bridges are completed in one or two appointments. Following anesthesia, the teeth are prepared for a permanent crown/bridge and an impression is taken. This impression is very important as it dictates the precision of your permanent crown or bridge.

A temporary crown or bridge may be placed as protection for the teeth. The size, shape, color of the temporary does not resemble the final restoration. A temporary crown or bridge is easily removed; therefore, care must be taken not to dislodge it before your permanent crown or bridge is placed. Do not chew sticky foods such as caramel or chewing gum. When flossing, pull the floss out the side; do not pop it through the contact with the tooth next to it. You will not be able to floss between the teeth of your temporary bridge. If your temporary crown or bridge comes off, you can place some Fixodent (available at any pharmacy) inside it and put it back on, then call our office during normal business hours and we will re-cement it. Do not leave your temporary off, even if you have no discomfort. If you feel the bite is not correctly balanced, please call our office for a simple adjustment. Without a temporary crown or bridge to hold your teeth in place, your teeth can move causing your new bridge not to fit during the final seating appointment. If that occurs, we would have to start from the beginning and make re-impressions, delaying the final restoration for at least another 2-3 weeks.

Tooth colored fillings, crowns, and bridges will not whiten or change colors at all. If the filling matches your current color, bleaching will result in miss-matched shades with your natural teeth. You may need to have your old fillings replaced to match your newly whitened teeth.

Your gums may be sore. Warm salt-water rinses will speed healing. You may have sensitivity to hot or cold. This is common and normal since the temporary is not an accurate fit of the prepared teeth. If you feel like you are biting first or harder on your temporary or permanent bridge, call our office for an adjustment or you may develop extreme sensitivity or pain.

Be sure to brush and floss your new crown and bridge. With a bridge, you will need special floss threads or other aids (such as AirFloss or Waterpik) to reach and clean all areas properly.

Thank you for allowing Alderwood Family Dental to care for your dental needs!