

PERMANENT CROWNS AND BRIDGES

After your restoration is finally cemented in place, it may take a few days to get used to your new crown or bridge. Hot and cold sensitivity is possible for a few weeks and occasionally lasts for several months. As with the temporary, if the bite doesn't feel quite right, please call us.

Over-the-counter analgesics, *as allowed by your physician*, will help alleviate residual discomfort.

800 mg ibuprofen (Advil or Motrin) and 1000 mg acetaminophen (Tylenol) should be taken every six hours for 48 hours and then as needed for pain. Do not take Tylenol, if you are taking prescription painkillers, as they often contain acetaminophen.

Dental crowns are an excellent solution for many problems. Crowns can last almost indefinitely, but they require regular care. They need to be protected from tooth decay, stress and trauma - just like the rest of your teeth! Regular brushing and flossing is essential. Once your crown is in place, make sure the area is brushed well and that you floss below the gum line. The crown protects your remaining tooth from further decay, but *you* need to protect the base of the crown from bacterial growth and gum disease

If you don't, tooth decay at the edge of the crown can require a new crown, either because a cavity begins to form underneath the crown, or because the edges have become gray and unsightly. A healthy diet, frequent brushing and flossing, and regular dental care (at least every six months) will help ensure that your crown will be in place for years to come.

Often, small problem areas that develop around the restoration can be found at an early stage and corrected easily. If you wait for a longer time, the entire crown may need to be replaced. While it's important to keep the tooth to which your crown is cemented free from plaque, crowns face other threats as well: chewing, biting, tooth grinding and accidental trauma. Crowns can be subject to excessive wear; this is a particular concern for patients who tend to grind or clench.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at 952-447-4463.