

POST OPERATIVE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CROWNS, BRIDGES AND VENEERS

Following the initial appointment for a crown or bridge procedure, a provisional provisional crown or bridges is usually placed on the tooth or teeth involved.

Occasionally, a provisional crown or bridge may come off. Call us if this happens, and bring the provisional with you so we can re-cement it. It is very important for the provisional to stay in place, as it will protect your teeth from shifting or moving, which may compromise the fit of the final restoration.

To keep your provisionals in place, avoid eating sticky foods (including gum) and hard foods. If possible, chew on the opposite side of your mouth. It is important to brush normally, but floss carefully. We recommend that you pull the floss through the side of your teeth around the provisional because pulling away from the bone with the floss may dislodge the provisional crown or bridge. After the appointment, it is normal to experience some temperature and pressure sensitivity with the tooth that was crowned, as well as with the adjacent teeth. If the sensitivity does not improve, or if you feel like your bite has been compromised, please contact our office to schedule an appointment to check the bite and evaluate the provisional crown or bridge.

VENEERS:

- Acrylic provisional restorations will serve you for a short period of time while your final veneers are being made. They are attached only slightly to the underlying tooth so they can be removed easily.
- If a veneer comes off, call our office and we will replace it immediately. If you are in a situation that will not allow you to come in, place the provisional back in place with some Fixodent (denture adhesive). You must still see us as soon as possible.
- The size, shape and color of the provisional will be used to determine the final veneer. Our office will follow up on the provisional and work out the changes needed prior to processing the final veneers.
- Provisional veneers may leak saliva or food onto the tooth. Sensitivity to hot, cold, pressure or sweets is not uncommon. You may also see stains under the provisionals. These will be removed prior to final cementation.
- Avoid heavy brushing of the provisionals and do not floss between them because you may pull them off.
- Your final porcelain veneers will be as close to the natural beauty and function of your teeth as possible. They look and feel normal in every way. We place our veneers with the finest materials and techniques available today. However, you should be aware of the following information about your restorations:
 - As with natural teeth, avoid chewing excessively hard foods on the veneered teeth (hard candy, ice, raw carrots, etc.) because the porcelain material can break under extreme forces. Biting on fingernails, pencils, etc. will break a veneer.
 - Proper brushing, flossing and regular 6 month (minimal) cleanings are essential to the long-term stability and appearance of your veneers. Often, problems that may develop with the veneers can be found at an early stage and repaired easily, while waiting for a longer time may require redoing entire restorations.
 - The gums may recede from the veneers, displaying discolored tooth structure underneath. This situation usually takes place after many years and requires veneer replacement.
 - There may be short term sensitivity to cold after veneers are seated. This should subside after a few weeks, but could take several months.

if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at: 806.797.0341