Maintenance

Plaque is the major cause of tooth decay and gum disease. All crowns and bridges must be brushed and flossed daily to ensure all the plaque is removed. Teeth that have been restored or replaced by crowns and bridges do require extra care to remove all plaque.

At Toothworkx, your dental hygienist and dentist will show you any special instruments you may require and how to use them. It is also necessary for your dentist to regularly examine your mouth and your hygienist to professionally clean your teeth, ensuring continued oral health and comfort throughout life.

Crowns and Bridges





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Creating Smiles with Care

Your teeth play an important role in your overall health as well as your appearance. So, naturally, you want to do everything you can to keep them healthy and looking their best.

However, tooth decay can advance to a point where a tooth is too weak to survive with just a direct restoration or filling. Instead, your dentist may recommend an indirect restoration, also known as a crown (or bridge). In these cases, the decayed area is removed and the restoration is fitted over the original tooth.

This service will help preserve the health and appearance of your smile.

What is a crown?

Crowns are an important part of modern dentistry, and act as an artificial cap that is used to improve the strength and appearance of a tooth. They are an invaluable tool, providing long-term durability and protection from everyday wear.

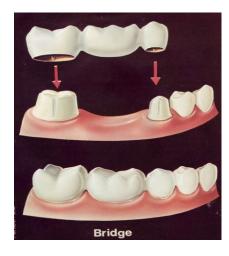
Dental crowns (also sometimes referred to as 'dental caps' or 'tooth caps') cover over and encase the tooth on which they are cemented. Dentists use crowns when rebuilding broken or decayed teeth, as a way to strengthen the tooth or as a method to improve the cosmetic appearance of a tooth. Crowns are made in a dental laboratory by a dental technician who uses moulds of your teeth made by your dentist. The type of crown your dentist recommends will depend on the tooth involved and sometimes on your preference. They include porcelain crowns, porcelain-bonded-to-metal crowns, which combine the appearance of tooth coloured material with the strength of metal, gold alloy crowns and acrylic crowns.



What is a Bridge?

A bridge replaces missing or lost teeth by suspending a false tooth from the natural teeth either side of the space. Crowns are made to fit on the natural teeth adjacent to the space and joined by a solid crown in the middle. The bridge can be made from gold, alloys, porcelain or a combination of these materials.

A bridge is a permanent restoration which can only be removed by a dentist. Therefore, it offers comfort and confidence whilst smiling, talking and eating all types of food.



What does the process of crown and bridge involve?

There are many different types of crowns; full porcelain, porcelain fused to metal, full metal crowns... Your Dentist will explain the advantage and disadvantage of each kind for you.

The process of making a crown includes many steps that start in our office with preparing the tooth and taking an impression of the tooth/teeth involved. A temporary crown or bridge is placed on your tooth/teeth until the crown is made.

The impressions are sent to the dental laboratory where a mould is poured and work begins.

There are multiple steps and different technicians work on the mould to fabricate a crown or bridge. The completed work is sent back to the office and after necessary checks and adjustments it is cemented onto your teeth.

What are Porcelain Veneers?

These are a very thin facing made from porcelain. They are bonded to the front of your teeth and can significantly improve the appearance of your teeth and smile.

Each porcelain veneer is individually made to suit your desired aesthetic result, allowing it to be indistinguishable from real teeth. Veneers are excellent for treating chipped, discoloured, slightly misaligned or misshapen teeth, or gaps between the front teeth.

To prepare each tooth your dentist will remove a thin layer (about 1mm) from the enamel surface of the tooth. An impression is then taken of your teeth and given to the lab, who constructs the veneers. At the next appointment the veneers can be cemented to the teeth and you will have temporary veneers for the interim.