

Crowns

A crown is like a shell that fits over the tooth. It is cemented or bonded into place. The tooth must be strong enough to support the crown and therefore some preparatory work is often necessary.

As well as restoring teeth where a lot of the original tooth has been lost, crowns may also be used to change the appearance, size or shape of teeth. Crowns may cover the whole or a portion of the visible part of the tooth.

Crowns can be made from a variety of materials and can be various shapes. Gold is a commonly used material for crowns, though its appearance often precludes its use at the front of the mouth.

Porcelain crowns can be manufactured to give a tooth-like appearance. They are hand-crafted by a dental technician to give characteristics to match the other teeth in your mouth. Porcelain can be crafted to give a high degree of translucency, but because porcelain is inherently a brittle material, sometimes a metal sub-frame will be produced, usually made of a gold alloy, to increase the strength of the crown. We do not use nickel-containing alloys.

Crowns are usually made over 2 appointments. At the first appointment the dentist will prepare the tooth surface and using soft putty and trays take impressions of your teeth and record the shade. These impressions will then be sent to the dental technician so they can make the crown.

Once the technician has completed this and sent it back to the dentist, they will fix the crown into place using cement.

