



## Fillings

Dental amalgam (silver metal) fillings have been available for many years although new formulations have lower mercury content and tarnish less readily. This filling material is still in very common usage.

White fillings are usually made of a composite resin based material. These are newer and again their formulation has changed since they were first introduced. They can be matched to the original tooth colour and hence give a good appearance.

All filling materials can now be bonded to the remaining tooth, lessening the possibility of them falling out and also helping to support the remaining tooth.

Fillings can also be made of porcelain. This has to be crafted out of the mouth and therefore requires a second visit to secure it into place. Sometimes a composite resin can be crafted out of the mouth and the material made to be more hard and durable than would be possible when working inside the mouth. Gold is also occasionally used for fillings, but once again this requires more than one visit. If a considerable amount of the tooth has been lost, then a crown may be required to restore it.

