

## Crowns and Bridges

If you have a tooth which has been broken or missing a portion due to decay (cavities) or trauma, a crown may be needed to maintain your tooth. If you have a space due to a tooth being removed and have teeth on either side of this space we can make you a bridge so you can have adequate chewing.

Please refrain from eating at least for 2 hours and until the anesthesia has worn off

### Temporary

A temporary is a crown or bridge that is placed on the prepared teeth while the final restoration is being made. It protects the exposed dentin so it is not sensitive, prevent food and bacteria from collecting on prepared teeth, and prevent the tooth from shifting and moving, which can make seating of the final restoration more difficult.

Temporaries are not strong. They may break or come off occasionally. If so, slip it back on the tooth with some Fixodent™ (Denture Adhesive) and call us for an appointment. Please do not leave the temporary out of your mouth because the teeth will move and the final restoration will not fit. 3 weeks are needed for the Lab to process your new crown or bridge.

- The size, shape, and color of the temporary does not resemble the final restoration.
- Temporary restorations may leak saliva or food onto the tooth. Sensitivity to hot, cold, pressure, or sweets is not uncommon. If you feel the bite is not correctly balanced, please call for an appointment for a simple adjustment.

### Permanent Crowns/Bridges

- Temporary restorations may leak saliva or food onto the tooth. Sensitivity to hot, cold, pressure, or sweets is not uncommon. If you feel the bite is not correctly balanced, please call for an appointment for a simple adjustment.
- After the final cementation of your restoration, it may take a few days to get used to the 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 balanced please call us.
- Do not chew hard or sticky foods on the restoration for 24 hours from the time they were cemented. The cement must set up during this time to have optimum strength.
- Proper brushing, flossing, and regular 6-month (minimal) cleanings are required to help you retain your final restoration. The only area that a crowned tooth can decay is at the edge of the crown at the gum line. Often, small problems that develop around the restorations can be found at an early stage and corrected easily, but waiting for a longer time may require redoing the entire restoration.