



CROWN AND
BRIDGE
POST OPERATIVE
INSTRUCTIONS

1. You have just had a provisional onlay, crown, or bridge placed to reinforce weakened teeth and stabilize your bite. During this process all existing fillings and decay were removed, the tooth was inspected, sealed and internally reinforced. The provisional restoration was intentionally placed with weak cement to enable the final restoration to be placed more easily.
2. Some post-operative sensitivity may occur for the first 24 to 48 hours after a composite restoration has been placed. Mild pain relievers such as aspirin, Tylenol, or Advil, should relieve this discomfort. Patients experiencing discomfort not relieved by mild pain relievers or experiencing discomfort for more than two days should call the office.
2. People bite differently when they are numb. Your bite was adjusted to the best of our ability while you were anesthetized. If, when the feeling returns, the bite feels incorrect, you should call for a 'five minute bite adjustment'. This is important because an incorrect bite may cause toothache or sensitivity.
3. Avoid chewing gum or sticky foods on the treated tooth until the final restoration is placed. Sticky foods may prematurely dislodge the provisional crown. If this should happen, rinse the crown off and reinsert it. Then call for the first available appointment to have the provisional crown re-cemented. **Do not leave a provisional crown off a tooth for more than one day.** Doing so may result in additional expense of a root canal or remake of the final crown.
4. Provisional crowns are plastic. Avoid chewing hard substances like candy, tough meat, or ice on the provisional crown. These could break the provisional crown or worse, the tooth.
5. Clean thoroughly around your provisional crown three times a day. When flossing, avoid vigorous up and down flossing around the provisional crown. Instead, floss gently between the teeth and then remove the floss laterally. Use a floss threader under splinted teeth and replacement teeth.
6. Ask before using bleaching products. Bleaching solutions and some peroxide toothpastes can tint some provisional crowns orange or make teeth sensitive.