

CROWN AND BRIDGE INFORMED CONSENT FORM

Dental crowns are restorations that cover or cap teeth, restoring them to their natural size, shape, and color. A crown not only helps with appearance, but can strengthen a tooth as well. A fixed (non-removable) bridge is designed to replace teeth that have been lost. Missing teeth may need to be replaced for appearance, or to prevent or correct bite and gum problems related to shifting or stressed teeth.

Dental crowns and bridges are made of porcelain, and may or may not have an inner layer of metal, while some are made of metal alone.

As with all procedures, there are potential risks associated with crowns and bridges. These include, but are not limited to:

- The potential need for root canal therapy: The need for root canal therapy may become apparent during a crown preparation, or after a crown is made.
- Dark lines at the gum line may appear on crowns or fixed bridges lined with metal. This is the metal edge of the crown. If the gum recedes after placement, this metal will show. Sometimes this can be corrected, other times a new crown or bridge might be recommended.
- Food impaction may occur under a bridge- this may be an unavoidable condition.

Meticulous home care is required. Crowns should usually be completed within one month.

Failure to keep appointments (resulting in wearing the temporary crown for longer) can lead to gum disease, tooth loss, or a need to redo the crown at additional cost.

I further understand that I may be wearing temporary crowns for several weeks, which may come off and I must be careful to ensure that they are kept on until the permanent crowns are delivered.

I understand that sometimes it is not possible to match the color of natural teeth exactly with artificial teeth. I realize the final opportunity to make changes in my new crown (cap), or bridge, including shape, fit, size, and color will be before permanent cementation. After permanently cementing crowns and/or bridges, NO changes can be made.

I understand that like natural teeth, crowns and bridges need to be kept clean with proper oral hygiene and periodic professional cleanings, otherwise decay may develop underneath and/or around the margins of the restoration, leading to further dental treatment and possible replacement of the crown(s) and/or bridge. All replacements due to decay will be the patient's responsibility, however, any breakage, cracks and fractures in the crown or bridge will be replaced at no charge to the patient for a period of up to ONE YEAR after the initial placement of the crown(s) or bridge.

I have had an opportunity to ask questions of my treating doctor and am satisfied with the answer that I have received. By signing below, I consent to the procedure.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Tooth Number: _____ Crown/Bridge Type: _____