

What happens to the impressions which have been taken?

These impressions will be collected by the dental laboratory and taken back to the lab to begin the crown casting process.

The laboratory receives your impressions and work can then begin to make your crown. The impressions will firstly have plaster poured into them and left to harden. Once this is set, the technician can use these models to work on. Each crown made is individually hand crafted. Firstly, a core is cast over the reduced preparation on the model; this core can be either a precious metal, a non-precious metal or porcelain only depending on the type of crown being cast. After the core has been made, the porcelain is blended to produce the correct colour, it is then hand painted in layers before being kiln dried and glazed.



When your crown is finished.

When your crown has been delivered back from the laboratory, it is then ready to be fitted at your next appointment.

On your next appointment your temporary acrylic crown will be removed and the preparation underneath will be cleaned to remove any temporary cement left behind.

Once the preparation is fully cleaned, your new crown can be permanently fixed. The dentist will first try the crown without any cement to make sure it is the correct shape, shade and fit. You will then be asked to look at your new crown to make sure you are happy with the appearance before final fitting. If you are happy with the finished product, it will then and only then be permanently cemented.



Before crowning



After crowning



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Crowns

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What is a crown?

A crown is a very skillfully fabricated tooth covering, which when cemented into place fully covers the natural remaining tooth or post in some cases.

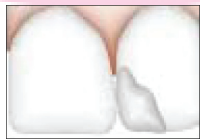
A very natural appearance is created with crowns. They can be used cosmetically to correct problems such as heavily filled teeth, badly stained teeth and chipped or broken teeth where possible.

Crowns can also be considered for teeth where there is a minor rotation present which is not severe enough for orthodontic treatment.



What are the treatment procedures when having a crown?

If your dentist has advised that you need to have a crown placed, here is a brief explanation of the treatment procedure :



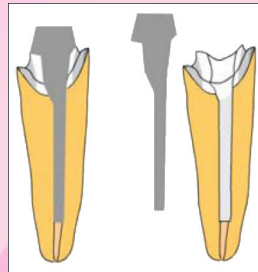
A natural tooth with a large failing filling

Firstly the necessary tooth will need to be prepared to make a sound core as a base for the crown to be cemented to. The tooth is firstly reduced on all sides and reduced in length creating enough space for a crown to be placed.



Remaining tooth after preparation has been completed

In some cases the tooth may have fractured down to the level of the gum and no tooth is remaining to prepare as a core. In these instances a post is needed to act as a replacement for what remaining tooth should be above gum level.



Post inserted to replace the missing tooth above gum level

After the preparation is complete, the dentist will then take two impressions. In some cases an impression will be taken prior to starting this procedure, this means the dentist has a mould of the tooth before work began and can then make an exact copy of your tooth as a temporary crown until your new crown is ready.

In the surgery, the dentist will place a temporary acrylic crown over the preparation; usually this will be in place for 7-10 days.

It is often a good idea to treat a temporary crown with care as temporary cement is only used; this enables the dentist to remove the crown quite easily when your new one is ready to be cemented.



Temporary acrylic crown

