

The crown preparation appointment is the first step to creating a long-lasting restoration.

- We prepared the tooth in a conservative manor while creating enough space to provide strength to the new crown material whether it is porcelain, zirconia, and even gold.
- We then created a digital model of the teeth and preparation so our dental lab can fabricate a custom fit final crown to recreate the anatomy and function of the tooth. Digital scans of the teeth are instantly transferred to the manufacturer reducing time between the crown preparation and delivery appointment.
- Since this process takes time, we create a temporary crown to last until the crown is fabricated and delivered.

### **What is a Temporary Crown?**

A temporary crown is a provisional, short-term restoration placed until your permanent crown is ready. It's tailor-made to match your tooth's shape, size, and often the color of surrounding teeth. This temporary solution plays several vital roles:

- **Maintaining Space:** It ensures other teeth don't shift and cause alignment issues, holding the spot for your final crown.
- **Keeping the Bite Correct:** By replicating the shape of your original tooth, it helps maintain your bite, keeping your teeth aligned. If the bite feels off, it is important to let us to correct it.
- **Protecting the Prepared Tooth:** Acting as a shield, it protects the prepared tooth from sensitivity, damage, and potential infection.

### **Taking Care of Your Temporary Crown**

Your temporary crown needs some special care to last until your permanent crown is ready:

- **Be Gentle with Your Teeth:** Try to chew on the opposite side of the temporary crown and avoid hard or sticky foods that could dislodge it.
- **Brush and Floss Carefully:** Continue your oral hygiene routine but be extra gentle around the temporary crown. When flossing, it is best to pull the floss out of the contact to the side versus popping it back up between the teeth. This reduces the chance of the temporary crown dislodging.
- **Sensitivity is Normal:** Minor sensitivity around the crown area is normal. A newly prepared tooth with a temporary crown is less insulated so the tooth's nerve can feel more. Over-the-counter pain relievers can help with the sensitivity.

### **What to Do if the Temporary Crown Comes Off or Breaks**

Temporary crowns are durable, but they aren't meant to last forever. Here's what to do if yours comes off or breaks:

- **Immediate Actions to Take:** Try to retrieve the crown if it comes off and keep it in a safe place. If it breaks, collect all the pieces you can.
- **Contacting the Dental Practice:** Give us a call right away. We'll schedule an appointment to fix or replace the crown as needed.
- **Temporary Measures Until Appointment:** If you can't reach us immediately, you may use over-the-counter dental adhesive as a temporary solution, but it's best to get professional care as soon as possible.

### **Conclusion**

Having a well-fitting temporary crown is a vital part in the process of getting your permanent dental crown. It's more than just a placeholder; it's an essential component that maintains the health and alignment of your teeth. By following these care guidelines, you're ensuring a smoother transition to your permanent crown.

If anything feels off or you have questions, don't hesitate to contact us. We're here to make sure that you're comfortable and informed every step of the way.