

DENTURES & BRIDGES

FIXED DENTAL BRIDGE

A fixed dental bridge is a restoration that consists of crowns (that fit over your natural teeth on either side of the space) and artificial teeth (that "bridge the gap" in your smile). They can replace one tooth or a row of missing teeth.

PROS:

- Lower cost than implantbased dentures
- No implant surgery required.
- Short recovery time

CONS:

- More invasive: requires the preparation of surrounding teeth to replace the one that is missing.
- More difficult to clean around/ underneath.

TIMELINE:

• Varies significantly from case to case. Ask for details.



CONVENTIONAL DENTURES

(REMOVABLE, SECURED WITH ADHESIVE)

Conventional dentures are fully removable dentures that replace all of the teeth on one or both arches (upper and/or lower). Any remaining teeth would need to be extracted.

Conventional dentures sit on top of the gums that cover the jawbone. They stay in place by suction, the tongue's ability to hold them in place, and denture adhesive. An upper denture has a palate that covers the roof of the mouth.

PROS:

- Lower cost than implantbased dentures
- No implant surgery required.
- Short recovery time



CONS:

- Can be uncomfortable, inconvenient, and require adjustments and relining.
- May affect your ability to eat, taste, and speak.
- Lack of stability due to bone loss
- Must be removed at night.

TIMELINE

- 1. Extract any remaining teeth.
- 4-6 weeks of healing (if applicable)
- 3. Full mouth impressions
- Requires 5–6 dental appointments.
- 5. Approximately 5-6 weeks to fabricate.

IMMEDIATE DENTURE

An immediate denture is a conventional denture that is inserted on the same day extractions are performed.

PROS: -

- Lower cost than implantbased dentures
- No implant surgery required.
- Short recovery time

CONS: -

- Can be uncomfortable, inconvenient, and require adjustments and relining.
- May affect your ability to eat, taste, and speak.
- Lack of stability due to bone loss
- Must be removed at night.
- May not fit as well as conventional dentures because they are placed while the gum is still healing.

TIMELINE:

- Impressions taken of the area.
- If applicable, extract any remaining posterior teeth and allow 4-6 weeks for healing.
- Requires 2-3 visits over 4 weeks before denture is placed.
- Extract any remaining teeth and insert the denture on the same day.

PARTIAL DENTURE

Removable partial dentures can also be used as a replacement after a tooth extraction. These dentures consist of replacement teeth, clasps, and a base.

PROS:

- Can replace a single to multiple teeth with one appliance.
- Lower cost than implantbased replacements
- Less invasive.
- Depending upon the material used and other factors, additional teeth may be added over time.

CONS:

- Can be uncomfortable, inconvenient, and require adjustments.
- The build-up of plaque around the abutment teeth can lead to tooth decay and gum disease.
- Bone loss at the sites of missing teeth can occur and overtime affect adjacent teeth.
- May not function as well as a fixed option for tooth replacement.
- Must be removed at night.

TIMELINE:

• Varies significantly from case to case. Ask for details.



SNAP-ON DENTURES (REMOVEABLE, "SNAPS" ONTO IMPLANTS)

Snap-On Dentures are also known as implant supported dentures or overdentures. They are fully removable dentures that are anchored to dental implants. Rather than rest on the gum tissue like a conventional denture, implant supported dentures securely snap onto the implants.

Snap-On Dentures are also known as implant supported dentures or overdentures. They are fully removable dentures that are both supported by the gum tissue and anchored to dental implants.

PROS:

- Denture stays securely in place.
- No messy adhesives.
- Eat more of the food you want.
- They can be easily removed and reinserted.

CONS: -

- Requires implant surgery, unlike conventional dentures.
- More susceptible to infection and inflammation if not properly cleaned.
- More costly than conventional dentures.



TIMELINE:

Snap on dentures can vary greatly by case. Your doctor can estimate the timeline for your situation.

ALL-ON-4 TREATMENTS

(NON-REMOVABLE, SECURED TO IMPLANTS BY SCREWS)

An All-on-4 is a permanent non-removable type of implanted supported replacement. This type of replacement is often referred to as a hybrid. Like removable dentures, hybrids sit on top of the teeth and gums. However, they are secured with four (or more) screws to the dental implants and cannot be removed without the help of a dentist.

Typically, the hybrid denture does not cover the roof of the mouth, allowing the wearer to fully enjoy eating and drinking.

PROS:

- Feels like your natural teeth and eliminates the issues caused by wearing standard dentures.
- Few eating or speaking restrictions.
- No need for messy adhesives.
- They do not shift and are very stable and secure.
- Built to last.

CONS:

 More expensive than traditional or snap on dentures.



TIMELINE:

 Varies significantly from case to case. Ask for details.