



Post-operative Instructions for Crowns on teeth and Implants

- After the first appointment for a crown, a temporary crown will be placed over your tooth while the permanent one is being made in the laboratory.
- If the nerve of your tooth was not removed before the crown was made, it is not unusual to have some sensitivity to hot and cold stimuli for a short period of time. This should disappear on its own. If it is still there after two weeks or if it increases in strength, contact your doctor.
- Also, since many crowns extend underneath your gum, there may be some mild discomfort from the gum around the tooth lasting a few days.
- Avoid chewing anything hard, sticky foods, or chewing gum as temporary crowns are not as strong as permanent crowns. If the temporary crown comes off between appointments, call your dentist and follow his or her instructions.
- Once the permanent crown is in place, continue brushing twice and flossing between your teeth every day. See your dentist for a checkup every six months.
- Avoid using your teeth (and crown) to bite hard things, including fingernails and pens.
- If the crown is on a dental implant you may find that a water or air jet helps in keeping the space between the implant and the adjacent tooth free of pieces of food.
- When flossing a dental implant, make sure that the floss slides all the way down under the gum to where the crown meets the implant. Floss which incorporates a thicker 'spongy' area (e.g. Super Floss) is best to use in these areas.
- If your implant crown starts to move or becomes loose, contact your dentist immediately.
- If two weeks after placement the crown feels 'high' contact your dentist to make an adjustment. This can happen with the temporary or permanent crown.
- Permanent crowns do not last forever.... At some point the crown will need to be replaced due to wear or breakage. However, regular checkups and maintaining good oral hygiene by flossing and brushing will prolong the life of your crown.



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