

# CROWN OR BRIDGE

***Congratulations on receiving your new crown or bridge!*** Please carefully read these instructions about what to expect for the next few days and how to take care of your crown(s).

Please do not eat or drink for 30 minutes after your new crown is cemented. Do not eat hard or sticky foods for 24 hours while the cement completely sets. Your new crown may feel tight or as if it is pushing against the teeth next to it. This discomfort will go away within a day or two.

If we used anesthetic, avoid or be very careful chewing or eating hot foods until the numbness has worn off completely so that you do not bite or burn yourself. The numbing in the upper jaw will last approximately 1 hour, and the numbing in the lower jaw will last up to 4 hours. The site where the anesthetic injection was given may be sore for a few days.

Sensitivity, especially to cold is common after a crown is cemented. Usually the deeper the cavity, the more sensitive the tooth will be. It may take several days to a month for the sensitivity to go away. If the sensitivity of your tooth worsens after several days, or if your gum becomes puffy or red after several days, please call us. It could be a sign that your tooth may need a root canal, or that your gums are having a reaction to the cement or crown material.

The crown may be contoured slightly different and have a different texture than the original tooth. Your tongue usually magnifies this small difference, but you will become accustomed to this in a few days. If you notice that your bite feels off or the crown is still bothering your tongue after a few days, please call us – your crown may need to be slightly adjusted.

Please follow the recommended oral hygiene routine of brushing twice a day for two minutes with fluoridated toothpaste and flossing once a day to avoid getting a cavity or gum disease around the crown. Flossing is especially important in preserving the health of your crown. The tooth underneath the crown is still susceptible to decay and your gums are still susceptible to periodontal disease.

***If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at (215) 525-3046.***