

DENTAL IMPLANTS

Smile with Confidence





Celebrate a natural, restored smile when you select dental implants

They look, feel and function like your natural teeth.

Dental implants are the gold standard when it comes to restoring your smile. Your doctor recommended dental implants because they are simply the best tooth replacement option and will allow you to speak and smile naturally, enjoy the foods that you love, and feel comfortable and confident about yourself and your smile.

Dental implants can improve your appearance, health and confidence. Implants are actually easier and more cost-effective than other tooth replacement options, such as bridges & dentures.

Invest in yourself and improve the quality of life!

Your mouth is the gateway to a healthy lifestyle. Dental implants can improve appearance, self-confidence and health.

- Implants are securely anchored, allowing you to eat your favorite foods and smile confidently - there are no worries that your tooth will come loose.
- There's no impact on the surrounding teeth. To place a bridge, your dentist needs to grind down the teeth that are next to the one that needs replacement - why compromise healthy teeth when it's not necessary?
- Most dental implants will last a lifetime! Dentures and bridges often need to be replaced due to discomfort from decay or ill-fitting dentures.

Why your doctor thinks dental implants are right for you

Choosing dental implants means that you'll have a more comfortable experience while having your smile restored. And don't worry, during the process, you will never be without a tooth or your smile!

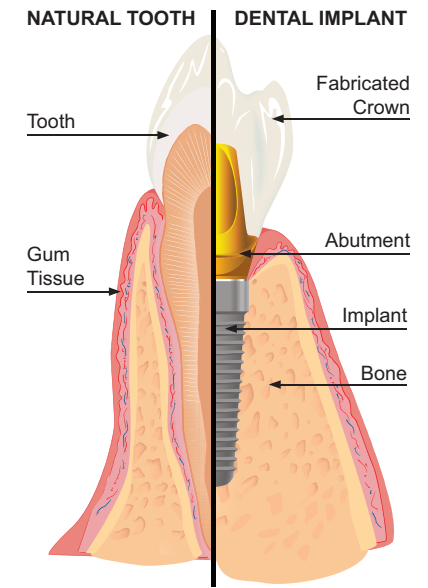
In some cases, you may be able to have your new tooth placed immediately, reducing the time needed for your procedure. Your doctor will tell you if this option is right for you.

Comparison of treatment options

	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
Dental Implants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent • Preserves bone and maintains facial structure • You can speak and eat with confidence • Ability to floss and clean 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A slightly longer treatment time to get to your beautifully restored smile • Requires a phased treatment plan
Bridge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less treatment and time involvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires grinding down of teeth surrounding the one that needs to be replaced • Likely to need replacement within 5 - 10 years • Some surrounding teeth may require a root canal • May not preserve bone and facial structure
Dentures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate temporary smile 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ill-fitting dentures can loosen and fall out unexpectedly • Likely to need replacement within 10 years • Difficult to enjoy favorite foods • A 'good fit' is hard to accomplish • Some people experience a 'lisping' when they talk • Can often cause an uncomfortable 'gag' reflex • May not preserve bone and facial structure
Doing Nothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inexpensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bone in your jaw will shrink away without a tooth and root—this can cause the appearance of premature aging • Difficult to enjoy favorite foods • A missing tooth can be embarrassing to your appearance and can affect your confidence

Dental implants are a permanent solution for tooth replacement.

The implant replaces the root of your tooth, and a crown is bonded to an abutment that fits into the implant, forming your new tooth. Implants can also be used to stabilize your dentures.



How dental implants work

1. Placement of the Implant:

The implant replaces the root of the damaged or missing tooth. It's placed under the gum and into the bone. Through a process called "osseointegration," the bone will grow around this new implant.

This is a simple procedure that can be done right in your doctor's office. Most people experience little or no discomfort during the process. Dental implant procedures generally are no more involved than other simple dental procedures.

2. Placement of the Abutment:

Once your implant has integrated with your bone, your doctor will perform a second small procedure to uncover the implant and place a healing abutment. After a few days, an impression is made and a temporary abutment is placed. An abutment acts as a connection between the implant and the crown and supports your temporary tooth while your permanent tooth is made.

3. Creating your new tooth:

Your new, permanent tooth is created using dental metals and ceramics to match the shape and color of your teeth. Your dentist will deliver your new restoration, allowing you to enjoy the foods you love and smile with confidence once again!

What to expect when you are getting a dental implant

Do implants hurt?

Most implant patients report minimal discomfort immediately following the procedures and are able to return to work the same or next day. Some people experience very mild discomfort after the procedure—easily managed with over-the-counter pain medications.

Why might I have to see different dentists?

Your general dentist may refer you to a trusted specialist who is an expert in the placement of dental implants, ensuring the highest level of dental care. You will return to your dentist who will handle the restoration—getting you to a beautiful new smile.

Why are dental implants expensive?

Dental implants may cost more initially, but less over a lifetime. With implants, you usually have to replace your tooth once. You may have to replace bridges, partials or dentures several times. With implants, your new tooth will look, feel and function like your natural teeth.

Why do implants take several months?

The dental implant process involves multiple steps and the overall treatment period varies by patient. The typical treatment time is a few months, but in some cases, implants can be placed and restored immediately. Your doctor will let you know which option is best for you.

How to get the most out of your dental implant and your new smile

Take care of your teeth and they'll take care of you.

- Keep yourself healthy by following a routine of regular dental check-ups and cleanings.
- Floss, floss, floss. We know it takes time, but it will make those dental cleanings faster and easier.
- **Always Celebrate Your Smile!**



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