

John L. Walker, D.D.S., J.D.

Memorial City Medical Plaza I
902 Frostwood, Suite 105
Houston, Texas 77024
713.465.6786 • 713.973.8078 (fax)
walkerddsjd@aol.com

Post Operative Care for Crowns and Bridges

Crowns and bridges are completed in a series of appointments (generally two). After the first appointment of preparing the tooth and impressions you will have a temporary crown or bridge until the permanent crown or bridge is fabricated.

- Temporary crowns and bridges can come off or break relatively easily, so it is important to not eat anything sticky or hard in that area.
- Do not floss around the temporary crown or bridge.
- If your temporary does come off, you may push it back on or call our office.
- It is important that the temporary not remain off for any length of time. The temporary is holding the space that the permanent crown will fit into. The teeth will shift and the permanent crown may not fit if the temporary is left off for more than a day or so.
- Some sensitivity to temperature and pressure is normal following crown or bridge preparation and final placement. Avoid extremely hot and cold temperatures when eating and drinking for several days (maybe several weeks, if sensitivity persists). Shift the bulk of your chewing to the other side of your mouth in order to prevent excessive pressure on the temporary crown or bridge.
- Preparing the tooth/teeth for the final crown or bridge: work is done just below the gum area. If the gum tissue is sore or tender you can gently rinse with warm salt water (1 Tablespoon of salt in 8 oz of warm water) four times a day.
- Analgesic tablets i.e. Tylenol, Motrin, Advil or Aleve are effective to take. Follow the directions stated on the bottle.
- Your Jaw may be sore from holding your mouth open during the procedure. This may last 4-5 days. Massage the jaw muscles gently. Apply moist heat for 10 minutes and then off for 10 minutes. Eat soft foods and do not over extend opening your mouth. Use analgesics as directed for discomfort.
- Once your permanent has been cemented wait to floss and chew on that side for 24 hours.