

Full Dentures

Dentures are precision fitting, removable false teeth which can be designed so they feel comfortable and look just as nature intended. Dentures are the most economical way of replacing multiple teeth.

If you have lost, or are about to lose, a large number of your own teeth, a complete denture might be your best option to restore function and aesthetics.

Extraction of teeth

Extraction of teeth is always the absolute last resort in dental treatment. It is best to keep as many teeth as possible as they provide greater stability for partial dentures. The most ideal treatment when planning to make any dentures is to have a waiting period of 3 months after any teeth are extracted to allow for any shrinkage of the gums and bone so when the new dentures are made they are as close fitting as possible.

If you do require your remaining teeth removed and do not wish to have noticeably missing teeth we can organise for an immediate full dentures to be made. This means the denture is fitted the same day we remove your teeth so you are never without teeth. If immediate dentures are chosen for your treatment 3-6 months after your teeth have been extracted the dentures may require to be relined to improve their fit as your gums may have shrunk. Healing and shrinkage of the tissues will continue indefinitely but slows after about 18 months.

Denture designs

Full dentures are fabricated from a plastic-like material called acrylic. A metal plate may sometimes be placed within the acrylic to reinforce the denture if the patient has a history of denture fractures.

Modern advances in technology and materials mean we can now produce individualised dentures to suit every need. The colour, shape and position of teeth can be customised to match what your own teeth used to look like, or can be enhanced to give you a completely new smile.



At the same time we are able to restore your facial profile and dimensions by reducing the sagging of the facial muscles commonly associated with the loss of teeth - in essence giving you a more youthful appearance to your face.

Denture fitting

Acrylic designs do require a fair bit of coverage in the mouth and some people find that they require some time to get used to. Sore spots are almost inevitable at first. New dentures, like new shoes, will need time for you to become accustomed to them. The tongue is a muscle which can take 3 weeks to adapt to the new tooth positions. Any sore spots or irritations can be eased by a visit back to your dentist for an adjustment. Sometimes it can take a few adjustment appointments to get things comfortable so don't be disheartened if things aren't right the first time.

Implant retained dentures

Full dentures can be retained better with the placement of implants. Implants are placed into the jaw bone and after a healing period become fused to the bone. They can then be used as clips to hold your denture in place for better retention and more comfort. This can be particularly helpful for lower dentures which can often be harder to retain as they don't have the same suction ability as upper dentures on your palate (roof of mouth).



Denture life-span

The life time of full dentures varies enormously, usually 5 to 7 years. Just as your body changes with time, so does your mouth. Bone loss and shrinkage can occur resulting in loosely fitting dentures which can become uncomfortable and unhealthy for the tissue. Some dentures can be relined which improves the fitting surface of the denture. This involves taking a new impression of the reshaped gums. It's generally advised to not wear a set of dentures for longer than 10 years as poorly fitting dentures can cause damage to the mouth and gums.

The modern era of comfortable, natural looking and precision fit dentures has been well

Process for making Dentures

established at Cannon Hill Dental. If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact us.



Primary Impressions of your mouth are taken and a shade for the teeth is chosen



Custom made trays are made to match the shape of your mouth and Final Impressions are taken



A wax bite registration is taken (records where your teeth close together). The dentist will also check for symmetry and facial profiles are also recorded.



The denture is made up with the teeth placed in wax. This is so you can try it in to check you are happy with position, colour and shape of the teeth. If you are happy the denture is completed.