

WHAT IS RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY?

“Restorative dentistry” is the term dental professionals use to explain how they replace missing or damaged teeth. The goal is to bring back your natural smile and prevent future oral health issues.

Why restorative procedures are important

- Filling in empty spaces in the mouth helps to keep teeth in the right place.
- Replacing teeth helps to maintain good oral care habits, which can help prevent oral disease and plaque buildup.
- Missing teeth can affect your health, looks, and how you feel about yourself.

Restorative treatment options

There are a few different treatment options your dental professional may suggest. These include bridges, crowns, and implants.

Crowns

A crown is a tooth-shaped cap that is placed over a tooth. It is used to strengthen and protect your tooth structure. Most crowns are made of a hard, white substance to help them look natural.

Bridges

A dental bridge covers or “bridges” the gap between missing teeth.

After you lose a tooth, your dentist may suggest that you get a bridge. A bridge can keep your other teeth from moving out of place.

Once a bridge is placed, it works just like your natural teeth.



A bridge is used when one or more teeth are missing. The bridge is fitted perfectly and cemented to your teeth.



A crown is ideal for people with broken teeth or cavities.



The crown is cemented into place over the damaged tooth.

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Dental Implants

Dental implants are used to replace missing teeth. An implant has 2 parts: a metal anchor and a false tooth. A dental implant looks and feels like a natural tooth.



The metal anchor is inserted into the jawbone.



After the anchor has been inserted, a false tooth is put into place.

Quick facts on how to take care of your restorative work

- Brush your teeth in the morning, at night, and after meals to help reduce plaque buildup.
- Electric toothbrushes can help remove plaque from your teeth and restorative work.
- Make sure to floss around your teeth, dental implants, crowns, and bridges every day.
- Try not to chew on hard or sticky foods. These can damage your implant, bridge, or crown.
- Use an antibacterial mouthwash to help get rid of plaque bacteria around restorative work.

To learn more about restorative dentistry, talk to your dental professional or visit oralb.com.