

Care and Precautions for Temporary Crown, Onlay and Bridges

A temporary is an acrylic covering that is similar to the final crown or bridge, but not as strong. Its purpose is to protect the prepared tooth as well as maintain the space between the adjacent teeth and the opposing teeth.

It is normal to experience some temperature sensitivity until several weeks after your permanent restoration is placed. However, **to avoid extreme sensitivity during the temporary phase, rinse the area thoroughly after each meal. Foods and beverages high in sugar may contribute to added sensitivity.**

In general, avoid chewing on temporaries to minimize potential problems, soreness, or loosening. You will want to avoid sticky foods such as caramel or taffy, and very hard foods such as carrots, nuts etc. The temporary may be pulled off or broken easily while chewing these foods.

If the temporary comes loose or off, most pharmacies carry adhesives for dentures that can be placed into the temporary and it can then be replaced slowly but if the temporary is broken and can not be replaced, the pharmacy may also carry Den-Temp/Denta-Temp which can be placed over a sensitive tooth until you can set up an appointment to see us again.

Please call as soon as possible to have the temporary re-cemented even in the absence of sensitivity, so the surrounding teeth will not shift. If your bite feels “high” after the anesthetic wears off, please call for an adjustment. With time, a high temporary will bruise the bone around the tooth and may cause it to become extremely sensitive.

To avoid potentially removing the temporary with dental floss, always floss through the teeth and *pull the floss out to the side* of the mouth rather than up and down, as you normally would do.