

DENTAL IMPLANT ARE THEY AN OPTION FOR YOU?

Dental implants are used frequently today to replace a missing tooth. The implant serves as the missing root of your tooth. Once it has stabilized in the bone, a crown and implant abutment that supports the crown completes the process.

We highly recommend implants to replace missing teeth, because the end result is a new tooth that few can tell from your own teeth. It's natural looking, strong for comfortable chewing, and it cleans and flosses like your other teeth.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS? DENTAL IMPLANT

Implants offer firm support to natural teeth and have many benefits, including...

- Implants won't slip or shift in your mouth.
- Implants feel more natural than a removable partial or conventional complete dentures because of their secure fit.
- Implants help to preserve the bone
- A single tooth implant is a stand-alone unit
- Implants are a good value, they can last a lifetime with proper care

STRUCTURE OF THE DENTAL IMPLANT

1. The Fixture:

The fixture is the bottom of the implant and is the part that is physically embedded below the gum line, fusing with the jawbone to become a permanent part of your smile.

2. The Abutment:

The abutment is the small portion that lies right around the gum line. Once the osseointegration (fusion) process has been completed, the abutment is screwed into the fixture and will eventually hold the dental work that becomes part of your smile.

3. The Prosthesis (Crown):

The prosthesis is the dental work that is done on top of the abutment, such as a crown, bridge, or denture. This piece is cemented or screwed into the abutment if the prosthesis is a crown or bridge or snapped onto the abutment if the prosthesis is a denture.



WHAT ARE THE FAQ FOR IMPLANTS

What are dental implants? Dental implants are small titanium posts that replace the roots of missing teeth. They are inserted into your jawbone during a minor surgical procedure that takes place in the dental office. After the implant has been placed in your jawbone, a completely lifelike porcelain tooth crown is attached.

How long does the implant process take? Once the implant is placed, the typical healing time is 6-8 weeks. It can be longer if other circumstances are present.

Is it painful? Typically, no. Most patients report that the implant placement surgery is less uncomfortable than when they had their natural tooth removed.

How long is the recovery? Recovery times can vary. The average treatment is three to six months.

Will insurance cover my implant process? Generally, dental implants are not covered by dental insurance. However, more companies are covering dental implants today than they did ten years ago. In many cases, your insurance can help pay for the teeth that are placed on the dental implants, if not the implants themselves. Upon your first visit to our office, we will be happy to call your dental insurance provider and ask if dental implants are a covered procedure.

How long do implants last? Factors that affect how long dental implants lasts depend largely on the patient's lifestyle and overall dental hygiene. The technology of dental implants has become so advanced over the years that implant failures due to rejection or functionality issues have largely become problems of the past.

Is age a factor? Implants are for healthy adults.

Does it look like my natural teeth? Yes, the restoration retained and/or supported by implants look very natural.

Can the implant get decay? No, because the implant-restored crown is an artificial (not natural) material, it cannot grow cavities.

Do I need to brush my implant crown? Yes. It is important to brush and floss around your implant crown just as you would your natural teeth.

Is my new implant and crown the best long-term solution? Yes. In many cases, implants are considered stronger than natural teeth and provide full functionality. After treatment, patients can enjoy all their favorite foods while benefiting from healthy, aesthetically pleasing prosthetic replacement teeth.

Can implants secure my denture? Yes. As few as two Implants can support a removable lower denture, while as few as four implants can provide a full, permanent set of top or bottom teeth.

How many teeth can be replaced with dental implants? You can replace a single tooth, multiple teeth or all your teeth with implants. You don't even need one implant for every missing tooth. As few as two Implants can support a removable lower denture, while as few as four implants can provide a full, permanent set of top or bottom teeth.