Crowns

Patient Information
Brochure

**Limestone
Dental**
Group

The **facts**

What are crowns

Sometimes a filling just will not do, and so crowns are used to save and fix a tooth.

Like the term suggests, a crown is a cap or helmet that covers the entire tooth and is bonded into place.

When should a crown be used?

+ As a cover for chipped, cracked or worn-down teeth.

+ When there's extensive decay to the tooth, a crown is needed to restore function.

+ To cover discolouration or misshaped teeth, especially if they are going to improve your smile.

+ If a tooth develops cracks or to stop a tooth from further cracking or fracturing.

+ When teeth have undergone endodontic (root canal) treatment, as they are more brittle than normal teeth, it's important to protect them. These teeth often have large amounts of tooth missing, further weakening them. In addition to the crown, root filled teeth can sometimes require a cast post core to be fabricated to connect the crown to the empty portion of the root canal to further strengthen the tooth.

What are crowns made of

The material of the crowns are important. At Limestone Dental all of our crowns are made with the highest quality and TGA approved materials.

Crowns are made of inherently strong materials, cast metal (such as gold), fused ceramics and fired porcelain. Crowns actually impart strength to the remaining tooth structure. Some people require much harder crowns because they clench or have a harder bite.

Ceramic crowns are used when a patient considers aesthetics to be important as these crowns match adjacent teeth very closely.

Tooth Whitening

Patients having tooth coloured crowns should discuss tooth whitening with their dentist.

Rather than having your crown matched with a stained tooth, it's better to have your crown shade matched to a nice light tooth.

Will my dental crown be noticeable?

At Limestone Dental, we strive to provide ultimate patient care and to make your dental crown look as natural as possible.

Crown care and maintenance

Dental crowns do not require any special care, but there is still a tooth underneath that requires the same amount of attention as your other teeth. Long term studies place the average crown life at 10 – 15 years:- dental decay, gum disease and crown or root fracture are common causes of failure.

Natural teeth darken with age leaving porcelain crowns to appear lighter and may need to be replaced. Good oral hygiene and six monthly dental exams (including periodic X-rays) will extend the life of a crown.

Avoid extremely sticky foods which could unseat the cemented crown and biting into extremely hard objects which may chip the porcelain crown or damage the remaining tooth structure.
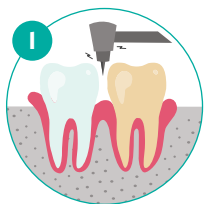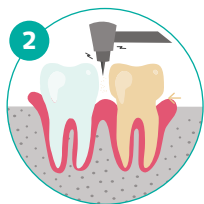
What's involved

Generally, three appointments will be required for the fabrication of a crown and these procedures can be performed by your own dentist.

1 The first appointment is brief and involves taking a set of impressions.

2 The next appointment is up to 2.5 hours long and involves preparing the tooth to accept the crown, further impressions and then temporary crown placement.

3 The crown takes several weeks to fabricate and at the third appointment, the finished crown is cemented into place.
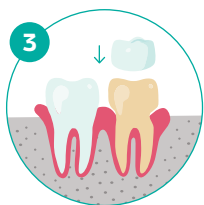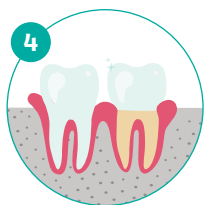
Crown installation process

Tooth is prepared, the structure and old fillings are removed.

During the preparation the tooth is milled down to create space for the crown.

Crown is fabricated in lab from the impressions and fixed on the tooth to cover the milled area.

The tooth is now restored to its natural shape and protected from any further breakage.

About us

At Limestone Dental we want everyone to be smiling with confidence, so if you are embarrassed to smile because of damaged or worn teeth you might find a dental crown is the perfect solution to get you smiling again.

At Limestone Dental we take the time to create and expertly fit your crown to ensure a comfortable and natural looking solution.

Contact us

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