

Restoring Damaged Teeth – Dental Crown

If your tooth is damaged but not lost, a crown can be used to restore its shape, appearance and function. A Dental Crown, also called a cap, is a hollow, artificial tooth used to cover a damaged or decayed one. The crown restores the tooth and protects it from further damage, and can be used to cover a discoloured or misshapen tooth – all while retaining the look and functionality of a natural tooth.

Who performs this procedure?

While your general dentist is qualified to crown teeth, he or she may refer you to a prosthodontist. A prosthodontist is a dentist who has completed a university post-graduate specialty program in prosthodontics – which is a specialty of dentistry that deals with dental restoration, and the replacement of natural teeth and tissues with artificial substitutes.

Different types of crowns

Crowns are made from various types of materials. Depending on which tooth needs a crown, your dentist, or prosthodontist, will suggest a combination of materials that is right for you. Such as:

- Metal crowns are made of gold. They generally last a long time and won't chip or break. They tend not to wear down your opposing natural teeth. However, the gold colour does not look natural, particularly on front teeth.
- Porcelain crowns look the most natural. However, due to the fact that they are more brittle than metal or composite and may chip. They are not usually placed on back teeth.
- Composite crowns look natural and won't chip as easily as porcelain crowns. This solution is great for people who are

continued on back page

Snoring

While not life threatening, snoring can cause disruptions to your partner's sleep, and you also will have a restless night if you have to keep waking up to shift positions to stop your snoring.

The good news is, it's possible to treat snoring problems and sleep apnea through the use of dental treatments. Dentrix Dental Care will be happy to work with you to determine what kind of treatments we can offer.

Details: <http://dentrixdentalcare.com/snoring>



Did you know...

Fruits and vegetables are full of fibre and as you chew these fibres can loosen sugar and bacteria from your tooth's surface.



Dental Emergencies

If you have a broken tooth, a possible infection, or an excruciatingly painful toothache, you don't want to have to wait for an appointment. At Dentrix DentalCare, we're available as soon as you need us. We can resolve your emergency dental problems before they get worse.

Contact us at 403-288-5500 for our Market Mall location or 403-289-9908 for our North Hill location. We will get you in to see an emergency dentist as soon as possible!



Refer a Friend

Do you know someone who can use our services? We always welcome new patients. Whether it is a friend, family member or colleague, we will make sure we provide them with the same professional treatment you expect from Dentrix DentalCare. Refer new patients to: <http://dentrixdentalcare.com/new-patients/>

Sign Up for Our Newsletter

Sign up for our monthly newsletter and receive new PDF newsletters (exactly like this newsletter) containing tips to keep your smile sparkling. Sign up at: <http://www.dentrixdentalcare.com/newsletter/>

Restoring Damaged Teeth – Dental Crown *continued*

sensitive to metal as well as those who may not be able to tolerate full porcelain crowns.

- Porcelain-fused-to-metal crowns look natural and are stronger than their porcelain or composite counterparts. They won't chip as easily as porcelain or ceramic crowns.

When is a dental crown needed?

There are a variety of situations that require a tooth to be restored with a dental crown. The following are the most common:

- **Large filling:** When a tooth has a cavity or fracture that involves half the width of the tooth or more, it needs to be covered with a crown. This is because the remaining tooth around the large filling is so weak that it is prone to fracture. Sometimes a large filling that has been in the mouth for a while will need to be replaced with a crown because the tooth shows signs of stress and cracks around the filling.
- **Root canal:** Root canal treatment leaves the tooth hollowed out and predisposes the remaining tooth to cracking. So, a tooth that has had a root canal almost always needs to be restored with a crown immediately to prevent it from fracturing.

- **Cracked-tooth syndrome:** This is a condition whereby a patient has fractures inside a tooth that cause pain when chewing. Chewing produces stress on fracture lines that make it feel like it is splitting apart. A crown will hold the tooth together and redistribute the stress evenly throughout the tooth, eliminating the pain in most instances. In these situations, it is best to leave a temporary crown on for a while to make sure the pain goes away and the tooth doesn't require a root canal.
- **Broken cusps:** Cusps frequently break off of teeth due to trauma or large existing fillings. Since the cusps are the part of the tooth that take the most stress during chewing, they need to be completely covered, or the tooth or filling will keep fracturing. Sometimes the tooth breaks all the way to the bone, and a crown-lengthening procedure is necessary. This means the bone and gums need to be trimmed down below the edge of the fractured part of the tooth, so the margin of the crown can be placed on healthy, strong tooth structure.

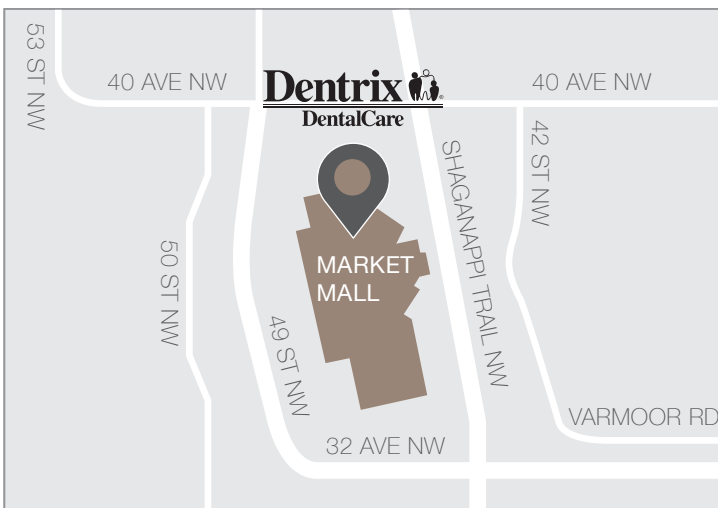
Fun Stuff for Kids

Every month we have fun stuff including brushing charts, brushing games, colouring sheets and certificates to help children succeed with their daily brushing routine. You can download these at: <http://dentrixdentalcare.com/category/fun-stuff/>



Dentrix DentalCare - Upstairs Market Mall

Suite 218, 3625 Shaganappi Trail N.W. • 403-288-5500



Dentrix DentalCare - North Hill

1695, 1632 14 Ave N.W. • 403-289-9908

