

PORCELAIN VENEERS

TO YOUR HEALTH - PATIENT EDUCATION HANDOUT

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INFORMATION

We have placed porcelain veneers on your teeth. These restorations were placed with the finest material and techniques available today. However, you should be aware of the following information about your restorations:

CHEWING

As with natural teeth, avoid chewing excessively hard foods on the veneered teeth (hard candy, ice, raw carrots, bones, etc.) because the porcelain can be broken from the teeth under extreme forces.

RECALLS

Visit us or your own dentist for examinations and check-ups at regular six-month periods. Often problems that are developing with the veneers can be found at an early stage and repaired easily, while waiting longer may require redoing entire restorations.

PREVENTIVE PROCEDURES

To provide optimum longevity for your restorations and prevent future dental decay and supporting tissue breakdown, use the following preventive procedures:

- Use a soft brush with a fluoride toothpaste and floss after eating and before bedtime.
- Swish vigorously for at least 30 seconds daily with a fluoride mouthwash
- See your dentist or dental hygienist regularly for professional cleanings
- If available, use a water pick for additional home cleansing.

THE FUTURE

We expect that you will receive several years of service from these veneers. However, the following situations due occur occasionally. They are unavoidable and may require restoration replacement:

- Extreme force or trauma can break porcelain veneers just as the same force can break natural teeth. Use care in sports or other potentially traumatic situations. Breakage usually requires remaking the restoration.
- After a few years, some veneers may demonstrate slight stains at some locations around the edges. Repairs can usually be accomplished.
- The gums may recede from the veneers, displaying discolored tooth structure underneath. This usually takes place over several years and requires veneer replacement.

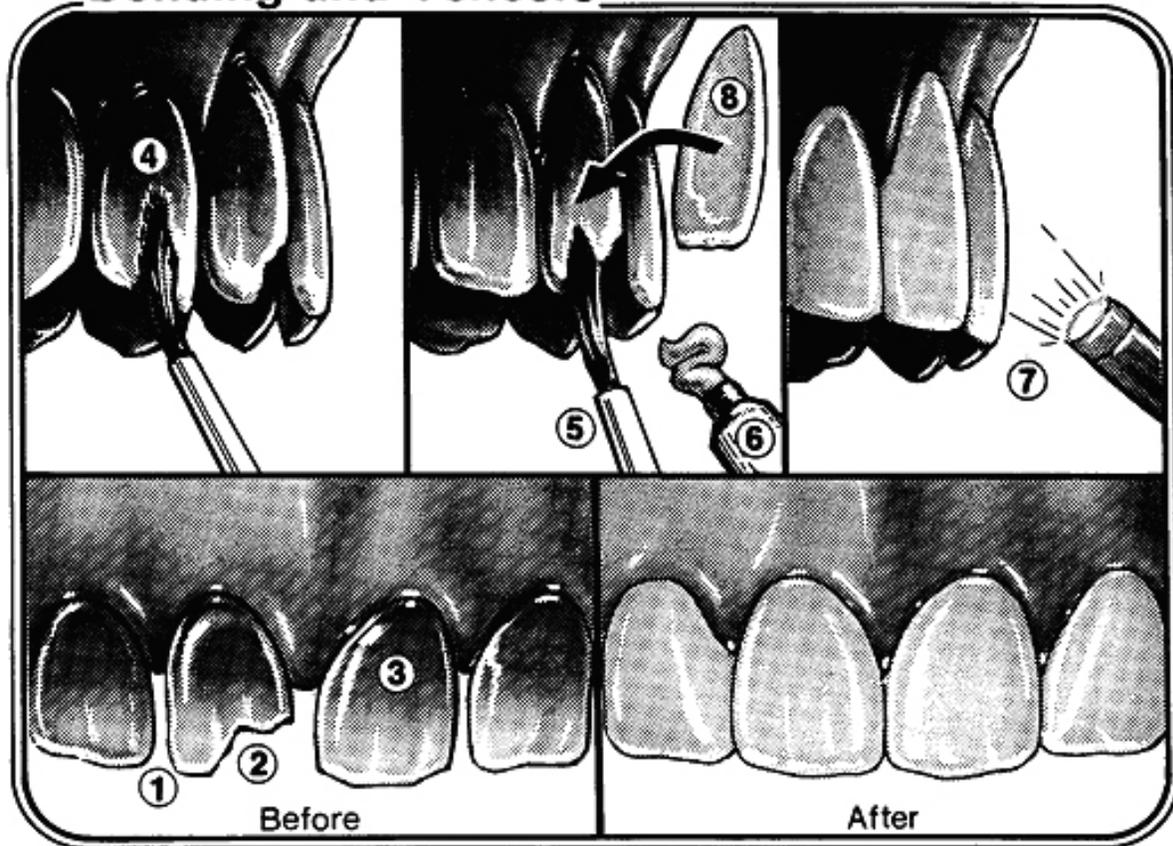
We have done our best to provide you with the finest quality oral restorations available today. However, only your continuing care and concern can assure optimum service longevity. Replacement of the restorations may be required in several years.

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Bonding and Veneers



Bonding is a procedure used to repair chipped teeth (1), fill spaces between teeth (2) and cosmetically restore discolored or stained teeth (3). This procedure is a result of the development of modern composite resins. These resins have the strength to withstand the stress we place on our teeth in everyday life. The composite resin is bonded directly to the teeth.

Bonding is a simple procedure that is usually performed without anesthetic. First, the surface of the tooth is etched with a special liquid (4). Etching enhances the adhesive abilities of the bonding material. Next, an adhesive material (5) is applied to the tooth. A bonding material (6), which has the consistency of tooth paste, is then applied to the tooth. This bonding material is shaped to resemble the original tooth. The bonding material is hardened by using the special and safe properties of an ultra violet light (7). Sometimes, a veneer (8), (a custom-shaped tooth covering) may be bonded to the surface of a tooth much like a false fingernail is used to enlarge and beautify a natural fingernail.

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