

What Is A Crown?

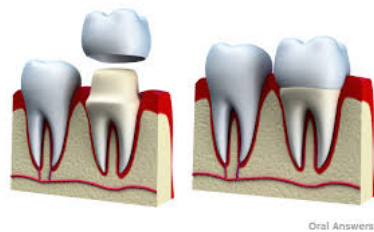
Over time, your teeth can get damaged. This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as tooth decay, injuries or just normal use over time. Your teeth can lose their shape, size, or experience cracks or fractures. Dental crowns are tooth-shaped “caps” that can be placed over your tooth to restore this loss or damage and allow you to enjoy improved function, comfort and appearance. Think of it like a full coverage, protective “helmet” for your tooth.

Dental crowns can be made out of various materials including metal, resin, porcelain, ceramic, or a combination of those materials. Your doctor will determine what material is the best for your mouth and situation.

Typically, you will have 2 appointments for a dental crown. The first appointment involves getting numb, removing any decay or compromised tooth structure from the area and making an impression for the dental lab to be able to use to make you a custom crown. You'll leave that appointment with a temporary crown on your tooth, to keep you comfortable and to protect the area until your next appointment. This first appointment takes about 60-90 minutes. T

The second appointment involves taking that temporary crown off and trying on the final crown that the lab has made. Your dental team will assure that the crown fits well and that you are happy with the look and feel of everything. If everything looks great, that final crown will be cemented onto your tooth. For this appointment, you typically won't need anesthetic, unless the tooth is sensitive, for which your doctor can certainly numb you for. This second appointment typically takes about 30-40 minutes.

On average, dental crowns last between five and 15 years. The life space of a crown can depend on the amount of “wear and tear” the crown is exposed to, how well you follow oral hygiene practices and personal mouth-related habits. These mouth-related habits can include things like, grinding or clenching your teeth, chewing ice, biting your fingernails or other such destructive behaviors.



If you have any further questions, feel free to contact the office via email or phone call and we'll be happy to provide you with additional guidance or recommendations.