

WHAT HAPPENS DURING DENTAL IMPLANT SURGERY?

Dental implant surgery is when an oral surgeon or periodontist replaces damaged or missing teeth with artificial teeth that look and function just like the real thing. Implants can seem daunting at first - but they aren't that scary when you know how they work. And the end result of a healthy smile is well worth it. Here's what to expect with dental implants!

1.



COMPREHENSIVE DENTAL EXAM

During your exam you'll get X-rays and scans of your teeth and jaw, and an oral exam from your dentist. These will give your dentist the lay of the land and help them determine if you need any prep work before your procedure.

2.



TREATMENT PLAN

After the exam, your dentist will give you an overview of any teeth prep work or extractions that need to be done before your implants.

3.



PREPWORK

If your dentist determined you need any prepwork done, such as tooth extractions, cleanings, or bone grafts, that will be your next step. These procedures make sure your mouth are clean, open, and strong enough to support your new teeth!

4.



PLACING THE IMPLANT

Next up is the procedure! During your surgery, your dentist will drill a small hole into your jawbone to seat the implant post into your mouth. The dentist will then set the implant post in, stitch up the incision, and send you home to heal.

5.



HEALING PERIOD

The healing process can take from a few weeks to a few months, depending on your circumstances. This waiting time can be annoying, but it is very important. This time allows your jawbone to fuse with the implant post, so it's healthy and ready for the placement of your crown!

6.



ABUTMENT & CROWN

After you're healed, it's time to place the crown (your new tooth) and the abutment (its home on the implant). The abutment gets placed on the implant post first, and then your dentist will put on the crown as the finishing touch!

After the procedure, it is common to experience swelling, minor bleeding and discomfort. Rest assured that your dentist will provide you the right antibiotics and medication to ease your pain. [To learn more about what to expect after your oral surgery, click HERE.](#)