




TEETH CROWNS AND IMPLANTS

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of two white toothbrushes standing upright in a white ceramic cup. The cup is on a dark, reflective surface. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue and white, suggesting a window or bright indoor lighting.

This collection of resources has been designed for you to distribute to patients when educating them on oral health. This collection of materials include the basics of tooth anatomy - including natural teeth, crowns or implants. Feel free to print or digitally distribute this guide to anyone who will benefit!

WHAT'S **Included:**

ANATOMY OF A TOOTH

IMPLANT SURGERY

CROWN CONFUSION

ANATOMY OF A TOOTH



Pulp Cavity

The pocket at the center of the tooth where most of the pulp (the soft tissue of nerves, blood vessels, and connective tissue) is.

Gums (Gingiva)

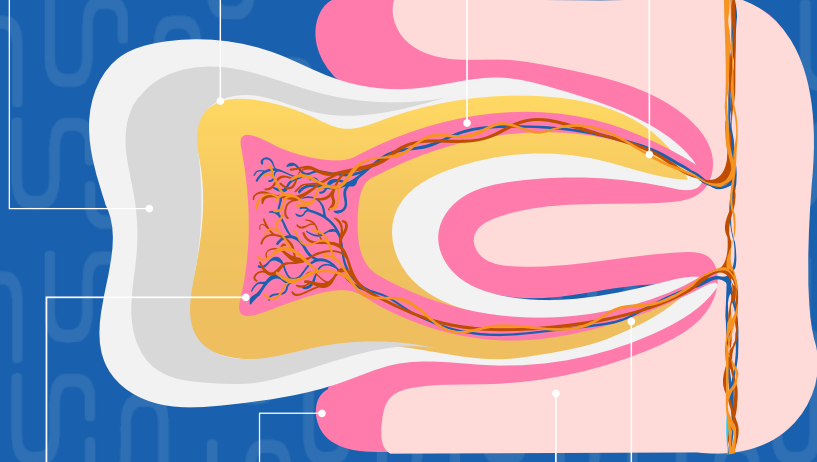
The soft tissues that cover and protect the roots of your teeth. Regular cleanings and checkups, daily brushing (at least twice a day), flossing and rinsing with an antimicrobial mouthwash will help keep gum disease away!

Bone

The bones of your face and jaw act as a home for your teeth, providing structure and support to keep them secure in your mouth.

Cement

The hard connective tissue connecting and covering the tooth root to your bone.



Enamel

Your enamel is the first line of defense for your teeth (and the strongest part of the human body). It protects the inner layers and chambers of your teeth from damage and infection. So make sure you take care of it by brushing your teeth, using fluoride toothpaste, and flossing!

Dentin

The layer of tissue that supports your enamel. It stimulates the nerves and cells inside your tooth when it is unprotected, causing sensitivity and sometimes mild toothaches.

Root Canal

Yep - it has the same name as the dental procedure. This is the canal-shaped area inside the tooth that leads to the pulp cavity - pulp is located here too.

Nerve and blood vessels

Also known as the pulp of the tooth, clusters of nerves and blood vessels supply blood and nutrients to your teeth.

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.

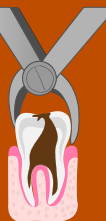
2.



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.

CROWN CONFUSION?



Here is everything you need to know about crowns - what they are, how much they cost, and how to take care of them.

What is a crown?

A crown is a dental restoration that, when cemented into place, covers the portion of a tooth that lies above the gum line. Crowns are generally used when you've had a root canal, a damaged tooth, or when a standard filling won't give enough support to the tooth structure.



What is a crown made out of?

Crowns can be made of several types of materials. These materials are often referred to as base, noble and high noble metals. These metals are sometimes used alone, or porcelain can be applied over to give the crown a more natural appearance. Covering metal crowns with porcelain creates a more organic-looking crown and is typically reserved for your front teeth.

Before you receive your permanent crown, your dentist will put in a temporary crown. This temporary crown will cover a tooth until the permanent crown can be fitted as a complete crown takes a few weeks to create.



What can a crown cost?

It's important to know that a crown usually requires more than just the "cap". Other procedures may be required, such as a post, or core build up. Often times, when a root canal is needed, that cost should be factored in as well.

Your dentist will provide you with a treatment plan and can explain why each procedure is necessary to restore your tooth. Looking to save money? Make sure you have a dental plan that works for you. Talk to a Solstice team member about your options. 1.877.760.2247

How to take care of a crown?

Crowns typically last between 5 and 15 years. The life span of a crown is impacted by the amount of "wear and tear" the crown is exposed to, and how well you follow good oral hygiene practices. It is important to avoid grinding or clenching your teeth, chewing ice, biting your finger nails, and using your teeth to open packaging. As with natural teeth, you should continue to follow good oral hygiene practices, including brushing and flossing, particularly around areas where the gum meets the crown.



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