

Are there different types of bridges?

Yes. Implants attach artificial teeth directly into the jaw or under the gum tissue. Because they require surgery, candidates for implants should have good general health and have adequate bone to place an implant.

Implant Bridge



Before



A bridge is attached to implants



After

In some instances, a resin-bonded bridge, frequently called a "Maryland Bridge," can be used to replace one or more missing teeth. Because the bridge is attached by a special procedure called bonding, it doesn't require the use of crowns or extensive tooth preparation. Your dentist can determine whether this treatment method is appropriate for you.

What materials are used?

Appearance and function are considered when selecting materials for bridges. Bridges are made from gold alloys, non-precious alloys, porcelain, or a combination of these materials. Porcelain is often bonded to either precious or non-precious metal. Your dentist will discuss which materials are best for you.

How do I take care of my bridge?



Daily oral hygiene is essential.



Interdental cleaners

It is very important to keep your remaining teeth healthy. Brush twice a day, and clean between the teeth with floss or interdental cleaners (specially shaped brushes as well as rubber, plastic or wooden items). These measures help remove a sticky film of bacteria called plaque. Plaque causes gum disease and dental decay.

A bridge can lose its support if the teeth or the bone that holds it becomes damaged by dental disease. Be especially careful to clean the areas under, around and between the bridge and your natural teeth. Dental floss threaders and special brushes can help you reach these areas. It is also important to visit your dentist regularly.

Remember, the ultimate success or failure of a fixed bridge depends on its foundation. Help keep your gums and remaining teeth healthy. Your dental health and your appearance are worth the effort!

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