

# Crown and Bridge (Also Inlays and Onlays)

1. Crown and bridges usually take 2 or 3 appointments to complete. On the first appointment the tooth/teeth are prepared and impressions are taken and a temporary crown is placed on your tooth/teeth.
2. You may experience tooth sensitivity, gum soreness and slight discomfort when biting on the tooth/teeth that have had dental treatment. It should subside within a few days or weeks and generally subsides after a shorter period of time with the placement of your permanent crown.
3. You may have had a laser used during the process of treating your tooth for today's visit. Please rinse with salt water to aid the healing process. Swishing salt water 6-8 times per day will give the best results (salt water = 1tsp salt with 1cup warm water).
4. Whenever anesthesia is used, avoid chewing on your teeth until the numbness has worn off.
5. Temporary crown is usually made of plastic based material or soft metal. It could break if too much pressure is placed on it. The crown also may come off; if it does, save the crown and call our office. The temporary crown is placed to protect the tooth and prevent other teeth from moving. If it comes off it should be replaced. To avoid losing your temporary, avoid chewing on sticky and hard food (chewing gum, ice). Try to chew on the opposite side of the treatment as much as possible.
6. After the permanent restoration is place you may feel slight pressure for a few days. Also, the bite may feel different for a day or two. **If the bite feels uneven or you feel discomfort when chewing on the tooth after 2-3 days call our office. Delaying the necessary adjustments may damage the tooth permanently.**
7. Continue your normal brushing but be careful while flossing around the temporaries (remove the floss gently from the side).
8. Sometimes excessive decay can act as a blanket to the nerve inside your tooth. Once that blanket of decay is removed, the tooth maybe more likely to be sensitive to temperature than prior to the removal of the decay. This may also be a sign that the nerve has been affected or traumatized from the rampant decay and may need a root canal. **You should contact our office if you experience lingering pain for more than 15 seconds after something cold or hot, have spontaneous pain, experience a dull ache in jaw bone or if it becomes too painful to bite on the tooth.**

For quickest results during the week, you can reach us at (231)-347-8899.  
Dr. Ellsworth can be reached on our emergency basis at (231)-392-1961.