



# Dental Crown

## Frequently Asked Questions



### What is a Dental Crown?

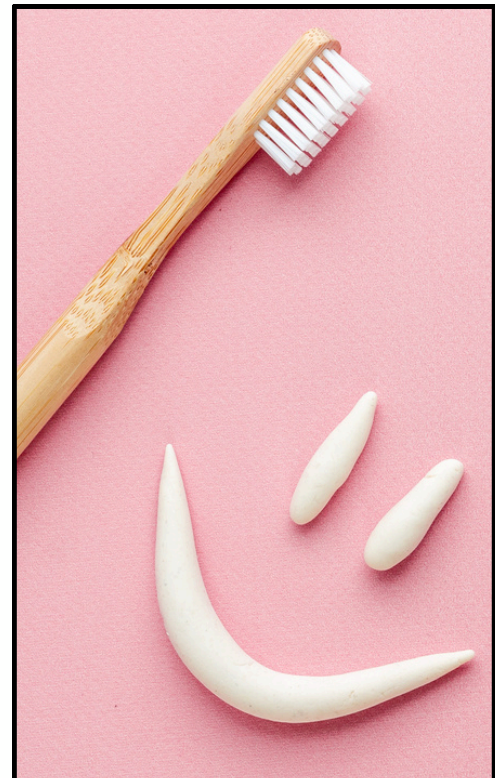
A dental crown is a cap or full cover that is placed over a damaged or weakened tooth to restore its shape, size, strength, and appearance.

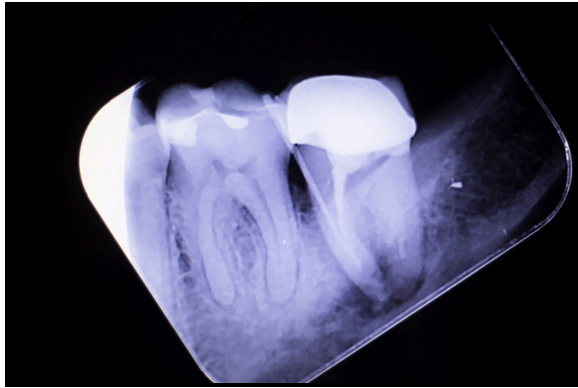
Most crowns are typically made of noble metal such as gold or gold alloy, and/or ceramic material such as lithium disilicate or zirconia. Ceramic crowns are often chosen because they can closely match the natural color of the teeth, while metal crowns are typically stronger and more durable.

**The process of getting a dental crown usually involves two visits to the dentist:**

During the first visit, the dentist prepares the tooth by removing any decay and shaping it to fit the crown. A temporary crown may be placed while a permanent one is created, which typically takes a couple of weeks.

During the second visit, the dentist removes the temporary crown, places the permanent crown and checks for fitting. If it fits perfectly, the permanent crown will be cemented, restoring its function and appearance.





## Who should get a Dental Crown?

A dental crown is typically recommended for individuals who have a tooth that is severely damaged, decayed, or weakened. There are several reasons why someone might need a dental crown:

**Severe Tooth Decay:** If a tooth has a large cavity that cannot be fixed with a filling, a crown can help restore its strength and function.

**Cracked or Fractured Teeth:** Teeth that are cracked, fractured, or weakened (due to injury or wear) may need a crown to hold the tooth together and prevent further damage.

**After a Root Canal:** If a tooth undergoes a root canal procedure, it becomes more brittle and is at risk of breaking. A crown is placed to protect and restore the tooth after the procedure.

**Worn Down Teeth:** Teeth that have been worn down due to grinding or other factors may need a crown to restore their appearance and function.

**Large Fillings:** If a tooth has a large filling that takes up most of the tooth structure, a crown may be needed to protect the tooth from breaking.

**Cosmetic Improvement:** A crown can also be used to improve the appearance of a tooth that is discolored or stained.

**Dental Implants:** After a dental implant procedure, a crown is placed on top of the implant to replace a missing tooth.

**Partials:** Crowns may be used to strengthen anchor teeth for a partial denture.



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# The difference between a Crown and a Bridge



## **Dental Crown:**

- *Purpose:* A crown is used to cover or "cap" a single damaged or weakened tooth. It restores the tooth's shape, size, strength, and appearance.
- *Usage:* Typically used when a tooth is severely decayed, cracked, broken, or after a root canal procedure.
- *How It Works:* A crown fits over the entire tooth, essentially replacing the outer structure of the tooth. It is usually used on a tooth that is still functional, and has enough tooth structure left, but needs protection or restoration.

## **Dental Bridge:**

- *Purpose:* A bridge is used to replace one or more missing teeth by bridging the gap between existing teeth.
  - *Usage:* Used when a patient is missing one or more teeth. It consists of one or more artificial teeth (pontics) that are anchored to the neighboring teeth (abutments) using multiple connected crowns.
  - *How It Works:* The neighboring teeth (on either side of the gap) are prepared by filing them down to accommodate crowns, and the bridge is then placed over these teeth, with the artificial teeth filling the gap.
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