

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM YOUR TEMPORARY CROWN

1. Your tooth (teeth) may be slightly sore after being prepared for a crown and some sensitivity to cold, biting pressure, and touch by your toothbrush and floss is to be expected for the first few days only. Your gums may be especially sensitive to the touch, but this should resolve itself within a few days if the area is cleaned on a daily basis.
2. Like any other foreign object, temporary crowns can be irritating until your mouth becomes accustomed to its feel. You should do your best to keep the crown and the surrounding gum tissues clean and healthy. Be sure to *drag* the floss out from between the teeth to prevent the crown from popping off.
3. Temporary crowns are quite resilient, but are only meant to perform for a short period of time during your crown's fabrication. Occasionally, the need for gum surgery or root canal treatment may lead to the need to have the temporary in service for an extended period of time. You should seek to complete your dental treatment plan as quickly as possible to avoid allowing decay to develop or the temporary crown from wearing out.
4. You should be able to function normally with your temporary crown, but it is important to remember that it is held in by temporary cement as well. As such, you should avoid chewing any sticky, crunchy, or gummy foods with it. You should also try not to bite into food with any temporary on a front tooth.
5. You may notice that the color of your crown is not exactly the same as your natural teeth. This is to be expected because the material is plastic; colors are limited and plastic will tend to absorb food color and stain if it is in service for an extended period of time. It is not a match for the final color of your permanent crown.
6. I recommend that a loose temporary crown be recemented within 3-4 days. The purpose of the temporary crown is to protect the prepared tooth underneath from extremes of temperature, from decay and/or fracture, and from allowing the other teeth to shift. If your crown should come loose, come off, or feel uncomfortable in any way, you should contact the doctor as soon as possible.
7. Please note that if your temporary crown comes off and it is not replaced by one of our staff, several things can happen:

DO NOT CHEW ON THE PREPARED, UNPROTECTED TOOTH!

- a. You may permanently damage your tooth, possibly resulting in the need for root canal therapy, a new preparation and impression, or even extraction.
 - b. You may allow the adjacent and opposing teeth to shift their positions, requiring orthodontic treatment (braces) or the need for a new preparation and impression.
 - c. Fees for additional procedures are generally not covered by dental insurance.
8. Please call if you have anything unexpected happens to your temporary crown.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide for your care.