

Crowns

A crown (often called a cap) is an artificial cover that is placed on an individual tooth (somewhat like a thimble over your finger) to restore a decayed or damaged tooth to its normal shape and size. This procedure is often necessary when there is no longer sufficient tooth structure left to place a filling. It is also useful for protecting teeth that are cracked or broken. A crown can also be used to change the shape of a tooth, to correct a bite or cosmetic problem, or to replace existing broken or poor-fitting crowns. A crown may be made of gold, other metals or porcelain which makes them durable and strong, so replacements are needed less often.

Before



After



Fractured teeth can be repaired with crowns to restore the health of your mouth.

Before



After



Stained or discoloured teeth can also be repaired with the use of crowns.

The Procedure

Fitting a crown is a two-step procedure. During your first visit (the longest), the dentist prepares and reshapes your tooth by removing enamel and dentin to allow room for the crown. You will be given anesthesia (freezing) before hand. Then an impression of the prepared tooth and surrounding and opposing teeth is taken. Before you leave the office, your dentist makes and applies a temporary crown to protect the prepared tooth between visits.

Expect to wait one week between visits while your crown is being made. Meanwhile, take care of your temporary crown by avoiding hard or sticky foods. In the event the crown comes loose, call your dentist so the prepared tooth won't be damaged.

At your second visit, your dentist removes the temporary crown and fits the permanent crown onto your tooth making sure it restores your tooth to its proper shape, look and comfort level. If necessary, your dentist may have to adjust the crown by modifying the shape. Once the fit is the way you want, cements are applied and the crown is positioned securely onto your tooth.

If the crown needs further changes, additional visits may be necessary.

Insert pictures here

A crown may be recommended if:

- Replace a large filling when there isn't enough tooth remaining
- Protect a weak tooth from fracturing
- Restore a fractured tooth
- Attach a bridge
- Cover a dental implant
- Cover a discoloured or poorly shaped tooth
- Cover a tooth that has had root canal treatment

*Image source: Crowns – Royal Cross

*Text source: Google