



Fillings

Amalgam Fillings

Made of alloy (consisting of silver, tin, copper, and mercury), these silver-colored fillings are relatively low in cost, safe to use, easy to replace, and are very durable. Amalgam fillings have withstood the test of time, having been used for over 100 years. A downside, however, is that amalgam fillings require removal of healthy tooth structure in order to achieve adequate retention. They also lack the natural look that their resin counterparts possess.

Tooth-Colored Fillings (Composite Resin)

Made of highly durable plastic material, these fillings can be matched to the color of your child's teeth to provide a more natural look and are not as invasive as their amalgam counterparts. Tooth-colored fillings are also very compatible with sealants, providing increased protection against decay. Tooth-colored fillings, however, cost more than amalgam and take longer to place. These fillings are not as durable as the amalgam fillings.

Pediatric Crowns

Stainless Steel Crowns

There are several types of crowns, but stainless steel crowns are most commonly used in pediatric patients because they are highly durable. These crowns are mainly used on posterior teeth (molars) with large cavities, cracks, or teeth which receive pulp treatment to help protect these teeth until they naturally fall off. Their purpose in restoring tooth structure and function is unmatched. The only major downside to stainless steel crowns are their unaesthetic – silver appearance.

Anterior Strip Crowns

Strip crowns are a more esthetic alternative to placing stainless steel crowns because they can be color-matched to your child's teeth. The material used in strip crowns is the same composite resin used in tooth-colored fillings, and mainly placed on primary incisors (top baby teeth) with severe tooth decay. Strip crowns, however, are not as durable as stainless steel crowns.