

Worcester Street Dental

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● All about crowns

 **Denplan**
At the heart of dental care

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● Looking after your teeth

Remember - you only get one set of adult teeth but by taking good care of your teeth and gums, you're also more likely to keep more of your adult teeth for life. This means that you'll maintain the same ability to eat and drink, and be able to show off a healthy, natural smile.

You can work easily with your dental team to take care of your teeth throughout the whole of your life. Simple things like taking a few minutes of your time everyday to brush and clean between your teeth can really make a difference in reducing the daily damage that can be done to your mouth.

Regular visits to your dental team can then help you to identify any factors that

could place your dental health at risk, allowing you to make small changes to your lifestyle to combat this, and stop dental problems before they start.

Keeping your mouth healthy relies on regular professional advice and guidance, combined with an effective home care routine. This combined preventive approach focuses on keeping teeth and gums healthy for life and reduces the likelihood of needing more expensive, complex, and possibly painful dental treatments or emergency care in the future.

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● All about crowns

What is a crown and when would it be needed?

Crowns are an ideal way to repair teeth that have been broken, or have been weakened by decay or a very large filling. A crown could be used for a number of other reasons, for example:

- you may have a discoloured filling and would like to improve the appearance of the tooth
- you may have had a root filling and need a crown to protect what is left of the tooth
- it may help to hold a bridge or denture firmly in place

What is a crown made of?

Crowns can be made of a variety of different materials and new materials are continually being introduced. Some of the most popular options are listed below.

Porcelain bonded to precious metal: this is what most crowns are made from. A precious metal base is made and then porcelain is applied in layers over it.

Porcelain: these crowns are made entirely out of porcelain and are not as strong as bonded crowns. But they can look very natural and are most often used for front teeth.

All-ceramic: this modern technique offers a metal-free alternative, which can give the strength of a bonded crown and the appearance of a porcelain crown. Therefore it is suitable for use in all areas of the mouth.

Glass: these crowns look very natural and can be used anywhere in the mouth.

Gold-alloy crowns: gold is one of the oldest filling materials. Today it is used with other metal alloys to increase its strength, which makes it very hardwearing. These crowns are silver or gold in colour.

What is the procedure for fitting a crown?

Your tooth is prepared for a crown under local anaesthetic and the procedure should feel no different from that of a filling.

