



columbus family dental care
David A. Dixon, DDS and Associates

RESIN RESTORATIONS

The following information regarding your new resin restorations (fillings) is important. Please read it carefully.

Do not eat anything until the local anesthetic has worn off and you are no longer “numb.”

With resin (white or tooth-colored) fillings, you may eat anything you like as soon as your numbness has gone - they are as hard as they are going to get as soon as you leave the office. Resin fillings do not conduct temperature changes quite like metal fillings and are seldom cold or hot sensitive. However, there is a microscopic shrinkage that occurs when they harden that occasionally results in tenderness to chewing pressures. This is almost always temporary, but could last, and slowly fade, for several months.

You must understand that some teeth behave differently than others. And while we can't predict how a newly-restored tooth will react, we can reassure you that whatever the response, it will be temporary and not last long. Please be patient.

You should expect your new fillings to last for many years. Today's resin fillings are very strong and hard - they strengthen the tooth, maintain their color and hold up well for front teeth as well as back teeth. By comparison, amalgam fillings, made from silver and mercury, are largely the same today as they were 100 years ago - they are safe and dependable, but turn black over time and tend to weaken and break the surrounding tooth.

If more than half of your tooth is filling, a crown is often necessary. A crown covers the entire tooth and holds it together. A filling needs the surrounding tooth structure to support it. Without adequate support, the tooth will likely start to break away around the filling. As a rule, the larger the filling, the weaker the tooth and the higher the chance for breakage.

If your new filling fails for any reason such as poor fit or decay, we will replace it at no charge for a period of 2 years, however you must maintain your regular cleaning and exam visits. If the tooth around the filling breaks anytime during that 2 years, we will credit the cost of the filling towards the cost of a crown. If any problems arise, or if you have any questions, do not hesitate to call our office.

Thank you,

Columbus Family Dental Care

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A General Dentistry Practice