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ALBERT PLACE
DENTAL REFERRAL CENTRE

White Fillings



White Fillings

What are white fillings?

A filling replaces part of a tooth that has been lost because of decay or through accidental damage.

Composite, glass ionomer and compomer are all different types of white filling.

Why should I consider white fillings?

Most people have fillings of one sort or another in their mouths.

Nowadays fillings are not only functional, but can be natural-looking as well. Many people do not want silver or dark fillings that show when they laugh or smile, because they are more conscious about the way they look.

What are the benefits?

Unlike silver (amalgam) fillings, white filling material sticks to teeth and can form edges, so it may be effectively used to repair teeth that are chipped, broken, decayed or worn. It can also be used as a 'veneer' to cover marks or discolouration that cleaning won't remove.

White fillings are less noticeable than silver fillings, which turn black in the mouth. White fillings come in a range of shades so they can be matched to the colour of your own teeth.

How much do they cost?

Simple restorations, which have little complexity or do not require high levels of aesthetics, can normally be provided in a short appointment. A difficult restoration, a full tooth rebuild or where a good aesthetic result is important, requires a high level of skill and time, and will normally require a longer appointment. This is reflected in the higher cost. We are happy to discuss any fees before treatment starts.



Amalgam fillings

Are they as good as silver amalgam fillings?

White fillings have, in the past, been considered less long-lasting than silver amalgam fillings. But at Albert Place Dental Referral Centre we invest in the latest and best materials available. We carefully choose the type of white filling best suited to your situation.

Is it worth replacing my amalgam fillings with white ones?

There are no proven health benefits associated with replacing amalgam fillings. However, if you are self-conscious about your dark fillings, your dentist at Albert Place Dental Referral Centre will be happy to discuss alternative tooth-coloured replacements.

What are tooth-coloured fillings made of?

This can vary between filling materials, but they are mainly made of glass particles, synthetic resin and a setting ingredient which is initiated by a light source that resembles a laser. Your dentist should be able to give you more information about the particular material they use.

Are there any alternatives to fillings?

There are alternatives to fillings such as porcelain inlays, crowns and veneers. All of these treatment options have specific indications.

A laboratory-made porcelain filling can be fabricated to restore your tooth. This is called an inlay. These are very hard wearing and look very life-like.

Please ask if you require more information about these alternatives. There are also leaflets about these treatment options for you to read.



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