Learn about **dental implants**

Dental implants are used to replace one or more missing teeth

- An implant has 2 parts
  - A metal anchor and a false tooth
- A dental implant looks and feels like a natural tooth

Quick tips on how to take care of your **restorative work**

- Brush your teeth in the morning, at night, and after meals to help reduce plaque build-up
- Power toothbrushes can help remove plaque from your teeth and prosthodontic work
- Make sure to clean around your teeth, dental implants, crowns, and bridges every day using dental floss or interdental brushes
- Try not to chew on hard or sticky foods. These can damage your implant, bridge, or crown
- Use a mouth rinse to help get rid of plaque bacteria around prosthodontic work
The goal is to bring back your natural smile and prevent future oral health issues.

Prosthodontics is the area of dentistry that deals with replacement of missing or damaged teeth.

**Why prosthodontic procedures are important**

- Replacing missing teeth prevents loss of bone level and movement of remaining teeth.
- Replacing missing teeth helps to maintain a good bite and prevents further damage to surrounding teeth, gums, and bone.
- Missing teeth can affect your overall health, appearance, and how you feel about yourself.

**Prosthodontic treatment options**

There are a few different treatment options your dental professional may suggest. These include bridges, crowns, and implants.

**Bridges**

A dental bridge covers or “bridges” the gap between missing teeth.

After you lose a tooth, your dentist may suggest that you get a bridge. A bridge can keep your other teeth from moving out of place.

Once a bridge is placed, it works just like your natural teeth.

**Crowns**

A crown is a tooth-shaped shell that covers a tooth structure.

A crown is used to strengthen and protect your tooth structure. It’s ideal for people with broken teeth or after a root canal.

Crowns are made of precious metals and ceramic that can be tooth colored to appear like your natural teeth.

A bridge is fitted perfectly and cemented to your teeth.

A crown is cemented into place over the damaged tooth.