

options for replacing missing

TEETH



Your New Smile starts at Whites Dental

Preparing for braces involves understanding the process, choosing the right options, and adopting a solid care routine. Whether it's traditional braces or Invisalign, the journey to a straighter smile is worth the effort.

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Why people lose teeth

Common Causes

- Trauma: Accidents, falls, or sports injuries can lead to tooth loss.
- Infection or Decay: Untreated cavities or gum disease can weaken teeth.
- Neglect: Long-term poor oral hygiene leads to irreversible damage.
- Medical Conditions: Diabetes, osteoporosis, and cancer treatments can affect oral health.

Did you know?

Studies show gum disease is a leading cause of tooth loss in adults over 35. Regular check-ups can prevent this.

Options for Missing Teeth

Dental Implants A titanium screw placed in the jawbone to replace the tooth root, topped with a crown for a natural look.

Best for:

Single or multiple missing teeth.
Patients with good bone density.

Why choose it:

Long-lasting (20+ years with care).
Prevents bone loss and maintains facial structure.
Feels and functions like natural teeth.

Considerations:

Requires minor surgery.
Initial cost is higher, but low maintenance.
Learn more about implants

BRIDGES A prosthetic tooth anchored by crowns on adjacent teeth.

Best for:

1–2 missing teeth with healthy surrounding teeth.

Why choose it:

Fixed in place, no removal required.
Quicker than implants.

Considerations:

Adjacent teeth need to be prepared (shaved).
May need replacement after 10–15 years.
Explore dental bridges

DENTURES Custom-made prosthetic teeth that sit on the gums.

Best for:

Multiple missing teeth. Patients who prefer non-surgical options.

Why choose it:

Affordable. Can be partial (for some teeth) or full (for all teeth).

Considerations:

Requires daily cleaning and periodic adjustments.
May not feel as stable as implants.
Discover denture options

Adjacent teeth need to be prepared (shaved).
May need replacement after 10–15 years.
Explore dental bridges

2025

Step 1 Researching

Dental Implants: Permanent, natural-looking, and prevent bone loss.
Bridges: Non-removable, anchored to adjacent teeth.
Dentures: Affordable, removable, and versatile for multiple missing teeth.
Factors to Consider
Aesthetics: How natural the replacement will look.
Longevity: Lifespan of the treatment.

Cost: Balancing upfront expense with long-term benefits.
Maintenance: Cleaning and care requirements.
Health Suitability: Bone density and gum health affect treatment choices.



Dr Deepa

Ask me any questions you have on dentures. Send me a message from our Appointments page.



Step 2 Individual Considerations

What to Discuss with Your Dentist

- Health of Existing Teeth: Ensure no untreated decay or gum disease.
- Bone Density: Required for implants.
- Lifestyle Needs: For example, prefer removable options for ease of cleaning.
- Allergies or Sensitivities: Metal or resin materials may not suit everyone.

Professional Obligation:
Your dentist will recommend the best treatment to avoid future oral health issues and ensure long-term success.

Step 3 Take Action

How to Document Your Problem
Photograph Your Teeth: Use good lighting and show different angles.

Smile naturally.
Open wide to show gaps clearly.
Take side profiles of your teeth.
Use a Diagram: Sketch your dental arch, marking missing teeth and any problem areas.

List Symptoms: Note any discomfort, difficulty chewing, or aesthetic concerns.

Questions to Ask:

Do you have experience with cases like mine?
What are the costs and timelines?
Are payment plans available?

What to Expect

Initial Consultation:

- Examination and X-rays.
- Discuss treatment options and costs.
- Preparation:
 - Bone grafts or extractions (if necessary).
 - Teeth impressions for bridges or dentures.
- Procedure Timeline:
 - Implants: 3–6 months (including healing time).
 - Bridges: 2–3 visits over a few weeks.
 - Dentures: 2–4 weeks, depending on type.

Health of Existing Teeth:
Ensure no untreated decay or gum disease.
Good Bone Density: Required for implants.
Allergies or Sensitivities: Metal or resin materials may not suit everyone.

Your dentist will recommend the best treatment to avoid future oral health issues and ensure long-term success.