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**CROWN OR BRIDGE AFTER CARE  
PORCELAIN & GOLD**

**Procedure**

We have reshaped your tooth (or teeth) to allow a protective crown (or bridge) to be placed. The design and type of crown or bridge selected is determined by the strength of the tooth or teeth, their position in the dental arch, the contour and health of the gum tissue, and the amount of stress placed during chewing.

**Tooth Protection**

The Crown is placed to protect the tooth during chewing, and to prevent pulp trauma from caries or a split. The Bridge is placed to protect the supporting teeth and to maintain the integrity of the arch, and to allow improved function in the missing tooth area.

**Discomfort**

A certain amount of sensitivity can be expected. You may experience more discomfort than normal if the crown had to be extended under the gum tissue, or if the tooth's pulp was already undetectably sick. The entire sensitive tooth may require root canal treatment to feel comfortable.

For the short term, pain medications may help. Brushing gently and rinsing with warm salt water may help soothe and heal the sensitive gum tissue.

**Postop Care**

Please care for the crown or Bridge as you would your natural teeth. The main area of vulnerability is in the margin area where the tooth and the crown meet. Check up exams and X-Rays are important because they are designed for early detection of any problems that may arise. Some problems can cause a shortening of the expected life span of the prosthesis (Crown or Bridge).

**Niteguard**

In patients that have a habitual heavy bite that can cause fracturing of the porcelain we strongly suggest a night guard to wear every night. Otherwise the crown or bridge's lifespan will definitely be shortened by a fracture of the porcelain. It is an established fact that the most common problem with porcelain is fractures and the best way to prevent them is a niteguard.

**When to call the office:**

- \*If you have sensitivity that over the counter pain medications do not help.
- \*If the treated teeth seem to be getting worse instead of better.
- \*If the teeth on the treated side of your mouth seem to touch harder, and before the other side. The occlusion may simply need to be adjusted.
- \*If you have any questions or concerns.



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