

## *Post-Treatment Instructions for Crowns*

**Your tooth was prepared for a crown today, and a temporary crown was placed to temporarily protect the tooth while the laboratory makes the permanent crown. Please be aware of the following:**

1. Your temporary crown is made of a resin material and is not as strong as your permanent crown. Avoid hard foods that can fracture the temporary crown.
2. Your temporary crown is cemented temporarily with temporary cement so that it can be removed in order to place your permanent crown. Stiff and sticky foods can stick to the temporary crown and pull it off the tooth. Avoid sticky foods like taffy, caramels, chewing gum, etc.
3. Teeth are prepared for crowns in the areas near and under the gum line. This can be somewhat irritating to the gums. If your gums are sore, use warm, saltwater rinses every other hour to soothe them.
4. Refrain from flossing the temporary crown. Brush the temporary crown thoroughly but gently.
5. If your tooth aches, use over-the-counter pain medications. Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, Nuprin, etc.) generally works well since it has both pain relieving and anti-inflammatory properties. Normally this discomfort will last only a day or two.
6. **If you experience any of the following, notify your dentist:**
  - **Spontaneous sharp or throbbing pain not relieved by over-the-counter pain medications.**
  - **Sensitivity to biting pressure.**
  - **Sensitivity to heat and/or cold that causes pain for more than 5 seconds. after the source of the heat or cold is removed from the tooth**
  - **Swelling or tenderness of the gums in the area of the root of the tooth.**
7. If your temporary crown comes off, it is extremely important that it be recemented within 24 hours even if there is no discomfort. The temporary crown not only protects the tooth, it also maintains the position of the crowned tooth, the adjacent teeth, and the opposing tooth. If the temporary crown is off and these teeth drift, the permanent crown is unlikely to fit. This will mean re-doing the crown procedure causing additional appointment time and additional cost.
8. It is your responsibility to return to the office within 5 weeks to have the permanent crown seated. If you wait longer than 5 weeks, you may need your treatment redone resulting in additional appointment time and additional cost.