

Indirect Resins

An indirect resin is a custom-crafted, white plastic restoration that is bonded in place to restore a damaged tooth. The bonding technique allows the tooth to be restored to nearly its original strength because the bonding process adds strength to the tooth, and more of the healthy natural tooth structure is preserved compared with an ordinary filling.

The term "indirect" means that the restoration is constructed in a laboratory rather than directly in your mouth. The laboratory hardens the restoration by curing it with heat and pressure, making it much more durable. The indirect tooth-colored resin is made from plastic or a plastic material mixed with glass. With a number of shades to select from, we can closely match the color to that of your natural teeth.



Natural-looking



Custom created for you



Bonded to your tooth

The procedure

It takes multiple appointments to restore a tooth with an indirect resin. During the initial appointment, we first thoroughly numb the affected area so the entire procedure will be comfortable for you. Then we remove the damaged, weakened, or decayed portion of the tooth, as well as any old filling material.

Next we take an impression of your teeth so we can create an accurate working model of your mouth, including the prepared teeth. This helps to recreate your natural bite. A temporary restoration is placed in your tooth. At the laboratory, resin material is carefully placed into the model, and the resin restoration is individually designed—or characterized—to make it look natural and lifelike.

On your second appointment, the temporary filling is removed, and a conditioning gel is placed on your tooth to prepare it for the new resin filling. Then, we place the bonding agent in the tooth, and use a harmless, high-intensity light to bond the indirect resin restoration to the tooth. We remove any excess cement, adjust your bite, and then polish the restoration to a high luster.

It's common to experience some sensitivity to hot and cold in the area, but this will normally subside after a few days. If you continue to experience any problems or have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to call us.