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Your New Crown

Today your tooth was prepared for a custom crown. The crown is fabricated to fit only this tooth—it will not fit any other tooth in the world! It generally requires a period of two to three weeks to complete the specific laboratory techniques to make the crown. Here are a few instructions and notes on what to expect:

1. The prepared tooth may be sensitive, especially to cold foods and liquids. After the permanent crown is placed the sensitivity should gradually disappear. Some mild discomfort is not uncommon (a mild ache for a day or two). Advil, Tylenol, or aspirin (if you are not allergic to any of these) should alleviate any discomfort.
2. The temporary crown is placed to keep the tooth comfortable and in its proper position with respect to the teeth around it. Occasionally the temporary crown comes loose; if it should come off, please call to have it re-cemented as soon as possible. If it is off for even a day, the other teeth may shift making it more difficult to place the permanent crown. If you are within 24 hours of your appointment to cement the permanent crown, you may try a little toothpaste in the crown to re-cement it until your appointment.
3. Chewing gum and other sticky foods will stick to the temporary crown. Please avoid sticky or gummy foods or candies until the permanent crown is placed.
4. You may brush and floss the temporary crown. When flossing, gently slide the floss between the teeth, and then pull the floss out to the side rather than snapping it through the contacts of the teeth. Rinse 2-3 times a day with Listerine for 30-60 seconds. Also rinse with warm salt water (1-2 tsp. salt in warm water) vigorously 3-4 times a day to help maintain the health of the gums.
5. The temporary crown may feel somewhat rough to your tongue. The permanent crown will feel much smoother. Food may at times become impacted between the teeth around the temporary crown. This should be corrected with the permanent crown.
6. Dental research indicates that 7-8% of teeth requiring treatment may someday require root canal (endodontic) therapy.
7. Your crown may be made from: a) gold alloy, b) gold alloy and porcelain, c) all porcelain.

With proper home care, your new crown should last for many years. If you should have any questions or concerns, please call.