

Dental Implants have revolutionized the way missing teeth are replaced. They are remarkably strong, durable and predictable. They are a healthy tooth replacement option because they do not require the unnecessary removal of tooth structure from adjacent teeth. Instead of weakening those teeth, the implant restoration will help to protect and strengthen the adjacent teeth. Hygiene is a breeze with dental implants because you can floss and clean around them like a normal tooth. In addition, the bone that supports the implant under function maintains its quality and volume, instead of thinning and shrinking away over time. Esthetics with dental implants are unmatched as the implant/crown complex emerges from the bone and gums just as a natural tooth does.

### **What is a dental implant?**

A dental implant is essentially a titanium device that is placed into your jawbone and acts like an “artificial” root of a tooth. When placed, your body undergoes a natural healing response and bone grows around the implant. Once the bone has healed, or integrated, the implant can be used as a solid foundation to support a tooth or stabilize dentures.



### **What about the surgical procedure for dental implants?**

The placement of dental implants is an easier procedure for the patient than a tooth extraction, with far less post-operative swelling and pain. Typically, at the first appointment, the implant is placed into the jawbone and covered over by the gums. The implant is then allowed to heal undisturbed for 3-6 months in order to integrate and fuse to the bone. If the patient desires, a temporary denture or flipper may be worn at this time for esthetic purposes.

At the second visit, the top of the implant is exposed and a healing collar, or abutment, is placed that will train the gums and get them ready for the crown.

Finally, impressions will be taken of the implants and the final crown will be fabricated by the dental laboratory and inserted by your dentist.

Ask us how dental implants can revolutionize your smile!!!