



# Dentures

## Stages in Fabrication

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## Dentures - Stages in Fabrication

A denture is a custom made dental appliance that artificially replaces missing teeth and tissues.

Prior to construction of a denture a full oral examination is necessary to determine your dental needs. The dentist can then advise you of the most appropriate denture that meets your requirements.

It is the practice of Dental Health Services to allow a minimum of five visits to complete a denture. More appointments may be needed if you require a chrome (metal) denture.

## The Appointments Schedule

### 1st visit - Preliminary Impressions

Preliminary impressions are taken to record the shape of your upper and lower jaws in standard trays. From these impressions, a “special tray” is constructed which accurately fits the denture bearing area.

### 2nd visit - Final Impressions

The special tray is used to take a highly accurate impression of your denture bearing tissue.

### 3rd visit - Bite Relations

Wax rims are sculpted to establish your bite. The size, shape and shade of the teeth are selected in consultation with the patient.

### 4th visit - Try-in

Teeth are set into the wax base and the denture appears as the final product. The dentist and patient check the appearance and position of the teeth.

**It is very important to advise the dentist of any modifications that you wish at this stage as no changes can be made after this appointment.**

### 5th visit - Insert

The denture is fitted. Small modifications may be necessary to ensure a comfortable fit. Instructions will be given on how best to take care of your new dentures.

It is perfectly normal to have some sore spots with a new denture, and you may need to return for your denture to be adjusted.

## Payment for your denture

Patients are required to pay an initial deposit of up to 50% of the denture at the first visit and the balance is due to be settled at the final appointment.

It takes time and persistence to adapt to using dentures, especially if wearing them for the first time. Dentures are no substitute for real teeth as chewing is less efficient. You may not be able to bite into an apple or eat certain foods such as nuts. All fruit and meat will need to be cut into small pieces. As time goes by, the difficulties encountered at first will reduce for most patients.

If you have any queries or concerns about your dentures or the steps that are undertaken, please discuss these with your dentist.