

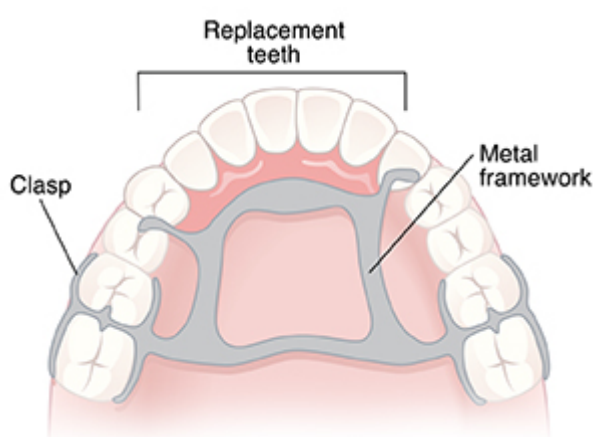
Partial Dentures



A partial denture replaces missing teeth and restores your smile. With your new partial you should be able to chew more easily and with greater comfort. The partial will also help keep your remaining teeth from moving or shifting out of place. Take good care of your partial to keep your mouth healthy and help your partial last.

Your partial denture

A partial denture is made up of one or more porcelain or plastic replacement teeth. Gum-colored plastic attaches these teeth to a resin or metal framework. The partial is removable. It is held in your mouth with either metal clasps or precision attachments (attachments that fit into existing teeth, or implants, and are often hidden by crowns).



How to clean your partial denture

Here are some tips to help you keep your partial denture clean:

- Rinse your partial after eating to remove bits of food. Brush it at least once daily.
- Brush your partial over a folded towel or sink full of water. That way, it won't be damaged if you drop it.
- Use a soft denture brush and mild liquid soap or denture toothpaste. Regular toothpaste is too abrasive. Never use bleach.
- Clean around clasps, removing all debris and food. Scrub your partial gently to avoid damaging it.
- Soak it in denture cleaner a few times each week to prevent staining and odor.
- Take your partial out at night and place it in a soaking solution or water. Dentures should be kept moist.

Tips to help during adjustment

Your dentist can make sure your partial fits properly. Follow the instructions that your dentist gives you to help your mouth adjust. This may take a few weeks. The tips below may help your mouth adjust faster and more easily:

- At first, eat soft foods and foods that have been cut into small pieces. Once you're used to eating with the partial, you can eat almost anything you like. Try not to eat very sticky or hard foods.
- Practice reading out loud until you can talk comfortably with the partial in place.

- Practice putting the partial in and taking it out in front of a mirror. Never force it or bite down to try to get it into place.

Keeping your mouth clean

Prevent tooth decay, gum disease, and mouth odor by taking good care of your natural teeth:

- Remove your partial and brush your teeth with fluoride toothpaste after each meal. Also brush your tongue.
- Floss between your teeth at least once a day.
- See your dentist for regular checkups and cleanings.
- Ask your dentist about using a fluoride rinse.

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