## Complete Dentures - Jaw Registration

Ideally carried out using occlusal wax rims on *acrylic base plates* (made from the master impressions)- this is for good stability and retention of the denture. There may be some cases where a wax base plate is preferred.

Check the record blocks on the study models.
Assess the fit, stability and retention

The rims should not be rocking on the casts. Minor faults can be corrected chairside, but major faults would require new impressions and to remake the record blocks.

Assess the upper record block inside the mouth. Assess the stability, retention and support

Adjust any under/over extensions, relieve the frenulum areas and adjust the labial/buccal thickness

Orientate the posterior occlusal plane parallel to the alar-tragus line

Orientate the incisal plane parallel to the inter-pupillary line

Remove wax from the palatal aspect as it is often bulky

Assess the lower record block inside the mouth

Adjust any under/over extensions, relieve the frenulum areas and adjust the labial/ buccal thickness. Consider lingual wax removal to improve tongue space

Cut back the heels on the upper and lower rims until there is an even bilateral occlusion intra-orally

- Stability: Rocking may be caused by excess plaster on the working model, poor trimming of the cast, poor mucosal coverage and flange overextensions.
- Retention: poor retention is a result of over/underextensions, inaccurate fit and incorrect post dam.
- Support: good mucosal coverage and a post dam region is necessary.

Use a heated wax knife to remove and add wax as necessary. Aim for an average naso-labial angle of 90-100°. Judge the aesthetics and lip fullness.

A Foxes bite plane or a wooden spatula can be used.

At rest, 2mm of wax should display. Inform the patient the pink wax will be white tooth at delivery, pass them a mirror and ensure they are happy with the amount of tooth display at rest and when smiling. The older population tend to display more lower teeth when smiling.

This improves tongue space and phonetics.

Use a heated wax knife to conform the labial aspect to the patient's skeletal pattern.

Judge the aesthetics and lip fullness.