

# The Stickbite Technique



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Using the Blue Mousse Stickbite Technique is an easy and accurate way for the dentist to transfer midline, horizontal and vertical plane information.

This method has endured excellent results for many years.

Here is my suggestion on how to improve on the standard as recently published by Parkell, the manufacturers of Blue Mousse .

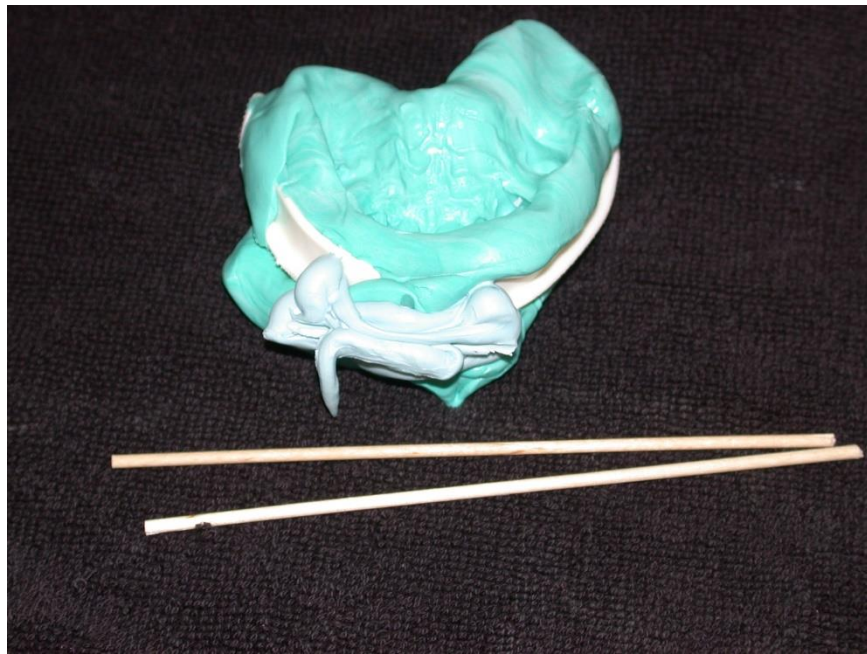
Blue Mousse Stickbite:

Coat the sticks lightly with vaseline, take your stickbite as usual. After removing the stickbite from the mouth, remove the sticks with a gentle twisting motion and send this off to the Lab.

Most stickbites can break or distort when they are left in the Blue Mousse, they are bulky and cumbersome to ship. Shipping them with the sticks removed prevents breakage and leaves the effort of taking the stickbite intact for the Lab to benefit from an undamaged record.

Uwe Mohr, MDT



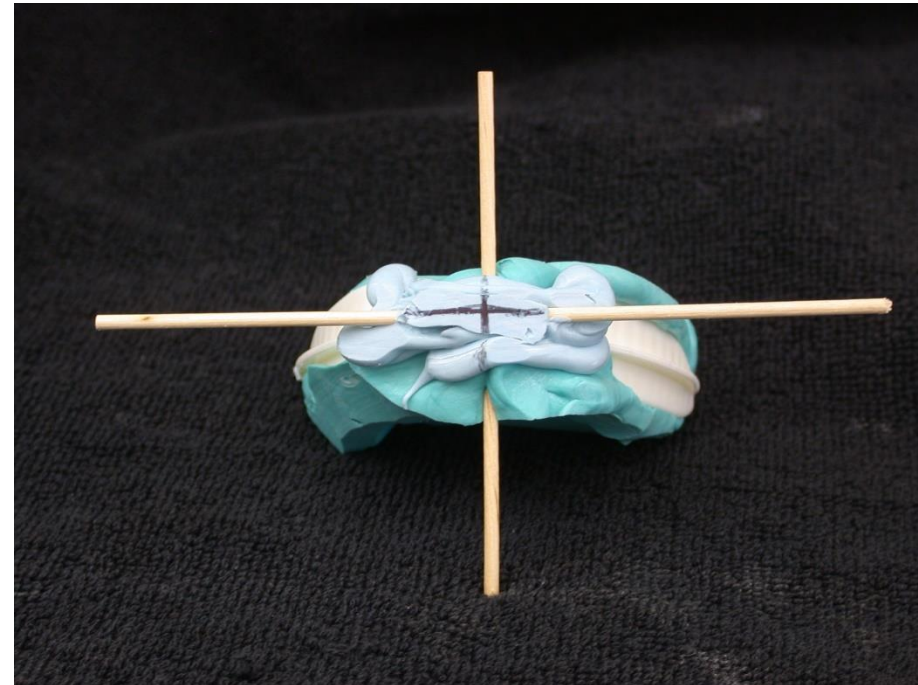


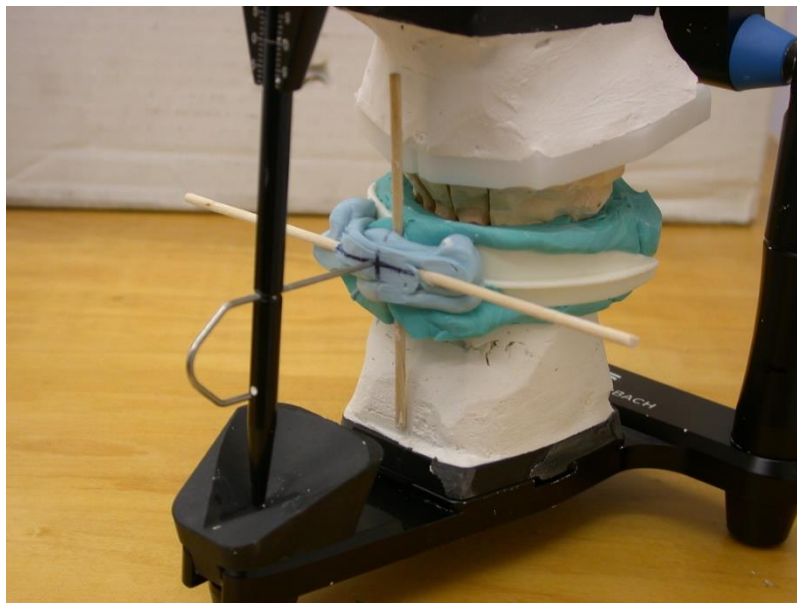
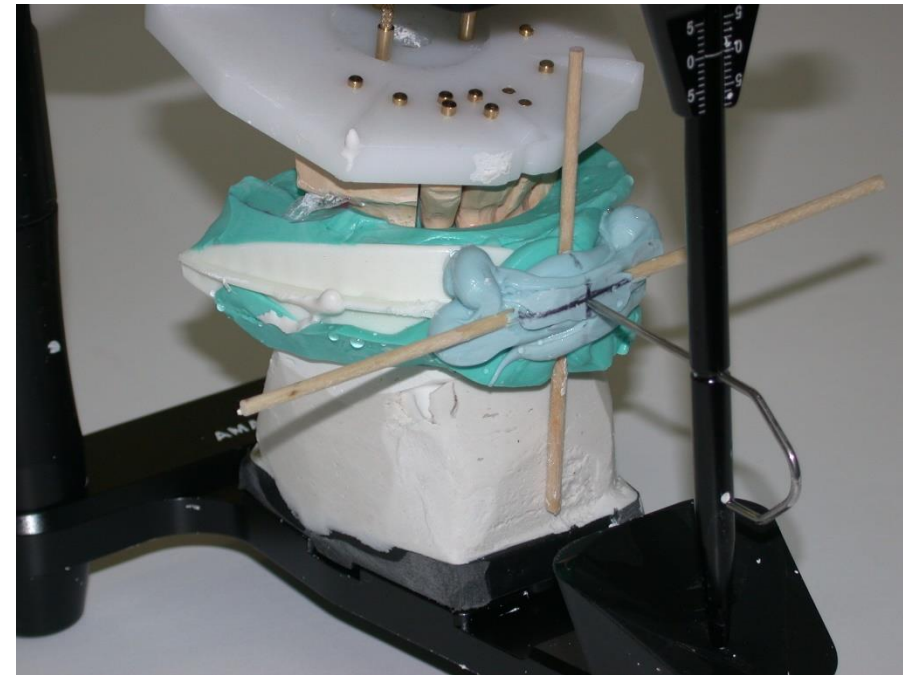
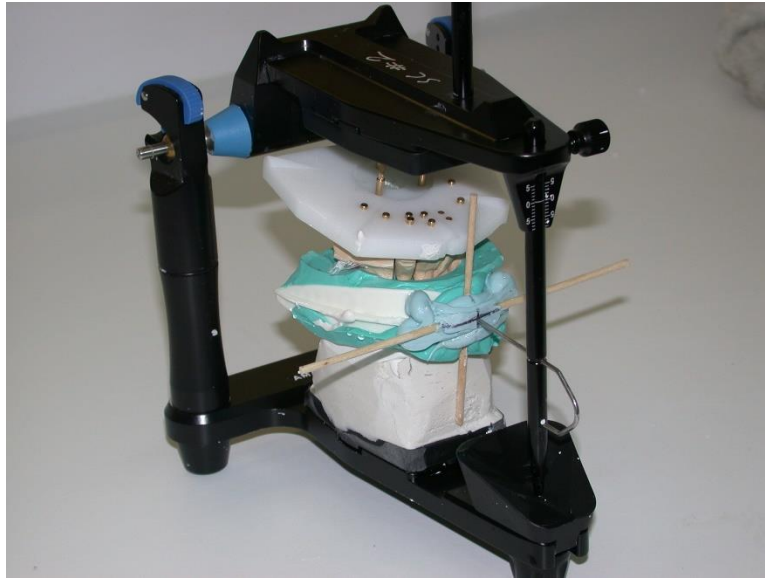
Stickbite provided courtesy of  
Dr. Howard Goldstein, DMD  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

The Lab re-inserts the sticks , cuts  
back the Blue Mousse to mark the  
midlines and cuts the sticks to the  
correct length to fit into the  
articulator.



Once the stickbite is taken, remove  
the sticks by gently twisting them out  
of the Blue Mousse. It helps if you coat  
them very slightly with vaseline  
beforehand.





Using an articulator with incisal center pin, the models are mounted to both , the vertical and horizontal plane.

This easy method allows for an accurate transfer of the stickbite information.

## The bite-stick registration and how to get it safely to your technician

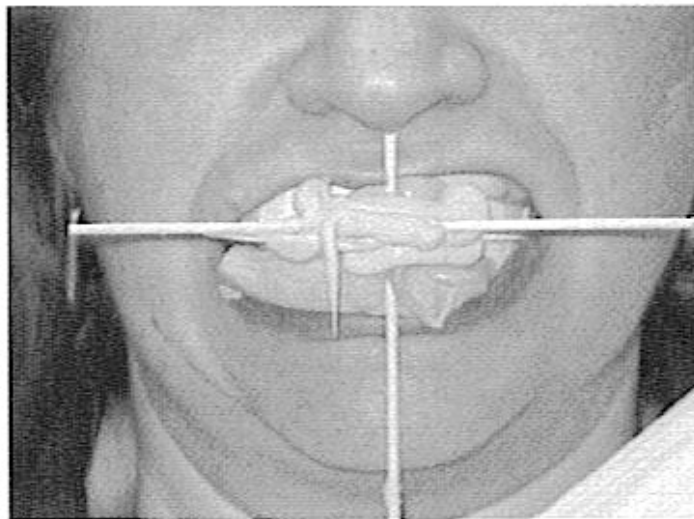
*An incisal registration won't help the cosmetics of your case if it arrives at the laboratory in pieces. Here's an easy way to ensure your bite-stick assembly survives the trek.*

By Uwe Mohr, MDT  
Toronto, ON

Once upon a time the so-called "bite-stick registration" was used only by cosmetic dentists who wanted to control orientation of the patient's incisal line without all the fuss of a facebow.

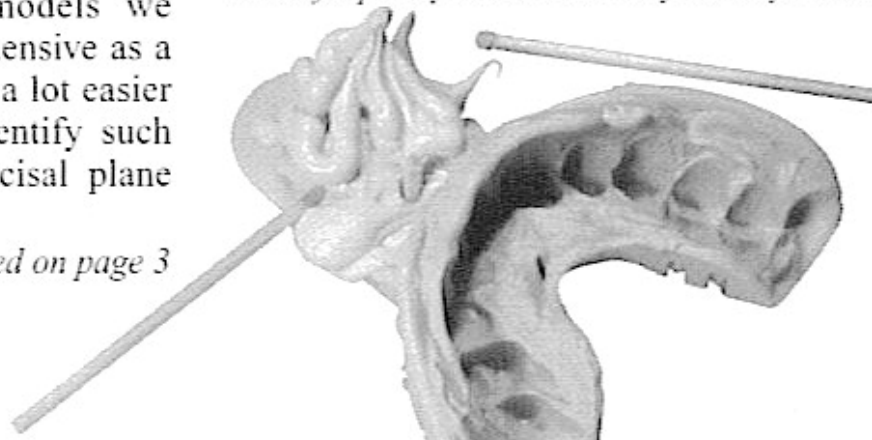
With cosmetic dentistry now a major part of most practices, stick registrations are frequently submitted with the models we receive. They're not as comprehensive as a facebow registration, but they're a lot easier to take, and they can easily identify such things as midline angle and incisal plane cant.

*Continued on page 3*



*Figure 1: The dentist usually wants the incisors (horizontal stick) to line up with the patient's eyes. Because this dentist included a vertical stick, the technician won't have to guess where the midline should be. (Clinical photos courtesy of Dr. Howard Goldstein, Bethelhem, PA.)*

*Figure 2: When taken the traditional way bite-sticks frequently break on the way the way to the lab.*

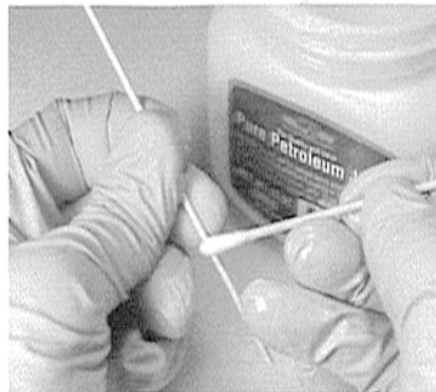


### *The Bite-Stick Registration (continued from page 1)*

In a bite-stick registration, a blob of Blu-Mousse<sup>®</sup> is expressed onto the handle of the bite tray. The dentist then stands at arm's length, so he gets an observer's view of the patient's face, and places a swab-stick into the Blu-Mousse to establish the incisal line. Most frequently, this means the stick is aligned with the pupils of the eyes. Some dentists use plastic BendaBrush<sup>™</sup> sticks, but plastic can bend in the heat of a UPS or Alean truck, so I suggest wooden swab sticks. Though some dentists use just a single horizontal stick, I encourage them to add a vertical stick to establish the midline.

As a technician I can strongly vouch that when you're requesting a diagnostic wax-up or cosmetic temp, including a bite-stick registration with the order will help us get it right the first time. (And if you're not requesting one of these preliminary steps, the registration may help avoid a complete remake.)

However, I can also tell you that the reg-

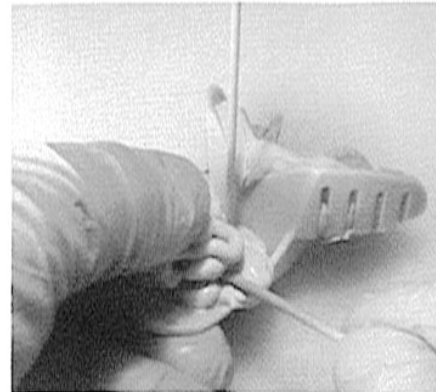


*Figure 3: To avoid breakage, simply coat the sticks with a little Vaseline before seating them.*

istrations frequently arrive at the lab in pieces.

Think about it. You have a thin 6" stick surrounded by maybe an inch of hard Blu-Mousse. It doesn't take much for that stick to break ... just a little jostling in the box,

So I suggest to my customers that they remove the swab-stick before sending the case.



*Figure 4: Then after the Blu-Mousse sets, twist the sticks (one direction only!) as you gently pull them out.*

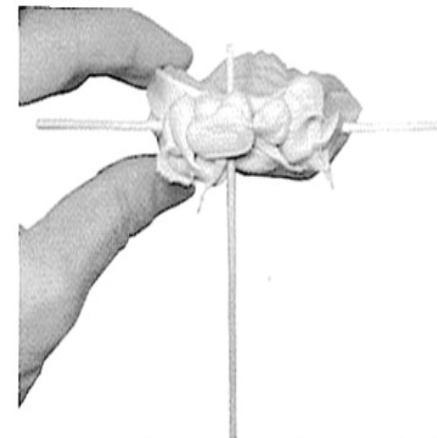
#### **Here's how –**

Before taking the stick bite, coat the center of the swab-stick (the part that will be seated in the Blu-Mousse) with a thin coat of Vaseline (fig. 3).

Take the bite as usual. Let the Blu-Mousse set.



*Figure 6*



*Figure 5: The technician easily re-assembles the registration when it gets to the lab.*

Before packaging the case, remove the sticks by twisting them in one direction only (fig. 4). Continue twisting it as you pull them out.

Send both the swab sticks and the registration with no fear of breakage.

When we receive the case at the lab, all we have to do is re-insert the sticks and we're good to go (figs 5/6).

*To learn more about Blu-Mousse, see page 16.*



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**dental technology with infinite solutions**



Uwe Mohr graduated as a Master Dental Technician in 1984 in Germany

He owns MDTLAB ( [www.mdtlab.com](http://www.mdtlab.com)) specializing in Aesthetic and Prosthodontic Solutions, servicing dentists in Canada, USA and Europe.

With over 40 years experience he likes to combine tried and tested procedures with state of the art technology and cutting edge materials.

Uwe's work can be seen on DentalTown, where he frequently contributes to case discussions. ( [www.dentaltown.com](http://www.dentaltown.com))

Pictures are courtesy of Dr.Howard Goldstein, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and article from Parkell Newsletter by Parkell( [www.parkell.com](http://www.parkell.com))



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