

DENTAL CROWNS

What are dental crowns?

Dental crowns are small coverings that fit over the tooth like a “cap”. They cover the remaining tooth structure and filling material to prevent the tooth from breaking.

When do we recommend getting a crown?

When your tooth is starting to crack or has a large filling attached to an insignificant amount of natural tooth structure, the tooth becomes weak. Root canal treatment also weakens the tooth. In such cases, we recommend a crown.



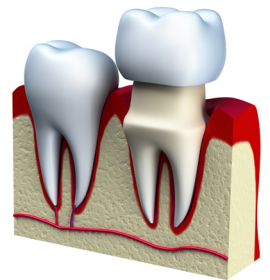
St. John's Family Dental

How do we make a crown?

We begin by reducing the outer tooth structure by 1-2 mm to make room for the crown to slide over top. We then send an impression of the reduced tooth to a dental lab to have a custom-made crown. The lab usually requires about one week to fabricate the new crown. In the interim, we place a temporary crown.

What does the crown look like?

The new crown will look just like your own natural tooth created in a custom-made colour to blend in with the teeth on either side.



What could happen if I don't get a crown?

Without a crown, a tooth that has a large filling or crack is more likely to break which could require a more complex treatment in the future such as a root canal or removal of the tooth. If the tooth breaks below the gum, the only option in most cases is removal.

Keeping your teeth will not only help you with chewing but will also help prevent other teeth from shifting into the space causing future problems. When a tooth is lost, the bone in the area begins to shrink and for some people, in the case of a back molar, problems can result with your TMJ (Temporomandibular Joint or “jaw joint”).



OLD SILVER FILLING THAT IS CRACKING



OLD SILVER FILLING BROKEN NEAR THE GUM LINE



VERY LARGE SILVER FILLING



BEFORE CROWNS



AFTER CROWNS ARE CEMENTED

