



A world of smiles through excellence in dentistry

What to do if you lose a crown or bridge

Crowns and bridges can sometimes become loose and be dislodged. Whilst this is rarely an emergency, unless you are in pain, it can be quite inconvenient especially if it affects one of your front teeth. You shouldn't unnecessarily delay contacting us.

Here are some simple steps that you could take until you can get to see us:

Carefully clean the inside of the crown or bridge to remove as much of the residual cement as possible and check that the restoration will seat back so that it feels normal in the mouth. Ensure that the inside of the crown is dry.

Dry the tooth as much as possible; use a cotton swab or a clean handkerchief. Use an over the counter temporary cement such as Dentanurse 1st Aid Kit for teeth to temporarily recement the crown. Mix a small amount of the cement following the manufacturer's instructions, and evenly coat the inside of the crown before slipping it over the tooth, the right way. Ensure that the crown feels normal in the mouth especially when biting together. We keep stocks of this product at the surgery so remember to pick some up at your next visit, especially if you are going away on holiday or business. If you are unable to get a temporary cementation kit then you may be able to hold the restoration in place by lightly coating the inside with petroleum jelly or use a small amount of denture fixative.

If you are in pain, covering the exposed tooth will often help to reduce your symptoms, and you can also take your normal pain killers.

Do not use any household glues to hold the crown in place.

These products are not safe to put in your mouth and can damage the tooth and crown.

If you've lost the crown or bridge, you can use over-the-counter dental cement to cover the tooth surface. This will help to protect and seal the area until you're able to see your dentist, and can make you more comfortable.

These techniques should be considered as first aid measures until you can arrange to come and see us.

If you are away on holiday or business, and you are a member of one of our dental plans you can get further help or assistance by contacting Denplan on **01962 844999**

For patients registered with Clover House our out of hours emergency number is **017790780512**.

For further details please see our Out of Hours Emergency page.