Eat, speak and smile with confidence

Implant treatment can provide restored function and esthetics for a new outlook on health and an improved quality of life.

Learn more about dental implants at www.implantsforlife.com
Like natural teeth

A healthy smile plays a vital role in the way you look and feel, but millions of people are affected by a change in appearance and health due to missing teeth. Fortunately, the innovation of dental implants is available as an optimal solution for tooth replacement that can help replace the look and function of your natural teeth. By acting as substitute tooth roots, dental implants provide a stable foundation for replacement teeth that stay securely in place, allowing you to eat, speak and smile with confidence.

For over forty years, dental implants have been used successfully as a treatment option to permanently replace one or more missing teeth, as well as all teeth in the lower and upper jaws.

Replacing missing teeth with dental implants can allow you to smile with confidence and eat the foods you enjoy again.

Dental implants are helping to improve the quality of life for millions of people. To learn more about this innovative treatment option, speak with your dental professional and find out if dental implants are right for you.

Time-tested results with DENTSPLY Implants

Quality implant solutions by DENTSPLY Implants are backed by extensive clinical research and documentation, and based on an in-depth application of biological principles, for reliable esthetic and functional results you can count on. The design of our implants allows for shorter treatment times and predictable, long-term successful outcomes.
A well-proven solution for over 50 years

Dental implants have been used to permanently replace one, several or all teeth in the upper and lower jaw since the mid-1960s. Dental implants are small screws made of titanium, a metal accepted by the body and well-documented for its ability to heal together with bone tissue.

Once placed in the jawbone, dental implants act as artificial tooth roots that provide a stable base for single-tooth crowns, larger bridges or dentures.

Parts of a dental implant

- **Dental implant at actual size**

- **An abutment on top of the dental implant**

- **The dental implant with a crown**

**Implant = the root for the new tooth**

The titanium screw that is inserted into the jawbone to form the foundation of the implant is referred to as the “dental implant.” The length and diameter of the dental implant used can vary depending on the amount of bone tissue present and the jaw size of each individual patient.

**Abutment = post for the new crown**

The abutment is made of either titanium or ceramic and is attached to the implant to create a post which the new crown is attached to and supported by.

**For crowns, bridges or prostheses**

Once the dental implant and the abutment are in place in either the lower or upper jaw, the crown, bridge or full prosthesis can then be securely attached in place for a tooth replacement solution that looks, feels and functions just like natural teeth.
Attractive and secure—for life

Implant-supported teeth are as functional and esthetic as your natural teeth and offer many advantages when compared to traditional crown and bridge solutions.

Advantages of dental implants

• Stable and permanent tooth replacement option that look, feel and function like your natural teeth.

• Healthy, adjacent teeth do not need to be ground down for support.

• Anchoring dental implants in the jawbone stimulates bone tissue and gums, ensuring an attractive, esthetic result, while helping to maintain facial structures.

• Dental implants do not require any messy adhesives to hold the teeth in place, and eliminate discomfort and insecurity of loose, ill-fitting dentures.

For conventional tooth replacement without an implant, healthy adjacent teeth are ground down in order to support the crown or bridge. Conventional solutions also do not stimulate the underlying jawbone which can, in turn, result in a withering away of bone tissue and, ultimately, receding gums.

A conventional denture requires messy adhesives and can cause denture sores.

Dental implants, on the other hand, are anchored in the jawbone, stimulating bone tissue just like natural teeth.

Dental implants provide attractive, long-term results. Implants help to stimulate the bone tissues, contributing to maintenance of jawbone and facial structures and healthy gums around the new tooth.
Implant solutions for every need

Dental implant therapy is the optimal solution for someone missing one or more teeth and who meets the criteria needed to be an implant patient. Speak with your dental professional to find out if you can benefit from dental implant treatment.

Replacing a single tooth
With dental implants, you can help prevent the bone from further atrophy and eliminate the need to compromise healthy adjacent teeth. Because the implant takes the place of the missing tooth root, it helps to maintain the jaw bone and provide optimal support for the replacement crown.

... several teeth
The ability to speak clearly and chew properly can be impacted when several teeth are missing. In contrast to a conventional bridge, implants replace the root of the missing natural teeth, which helps to stimulate and maintain the jaw bone and provide a strong support for the replacement crowns or bridge without the need to compromise other healthy teeth.

... or all of your teeth
With dental implants, you can eliminate the embarrassment and pain of ill-fitting dentures. As artificial tooth roots, implants help to maintain the jawbone and provide a strong foundation for an implant-supported prosthesis that will stay securely fixed in place without the need for messy adhesives. The esthetic and functional solution will allow you to eat, speak and smile with confidence again.
The treatment procedure

1. A thorough examination
The first step of dental implant therapy is a discussion with your dentist, followed by a thorough dental examination. The jaw is x-rayed to check the condition of the bone tissue and to determine the placement of the dental implant. An impression is made of the jaw and existing teeth, forming an important platform for the treatment.

2. Inserting the dental implant
Depending on your clinical situation, there are two options for dental implant placement.
In a one-stage procedure, the dental implant is placed and then a temporary abutment is attached. In a two-stage procedure, the dental implant is inserted and then covered by the gum. The abutment is attached at a later date (see below).
In both cases, a temporary tooth or prosthesis is put in place, followed by a healing period that is dependent on your individual situation. In some cases, the crown, bridge or prosthesis can be attached immediately. However, this also depends on the condition of your bone and other factors specific to your situation.

3. Attaching the abutments
In a one-stage treatment, the temporary abutment is replaced by a permanent one after the dental implant has fully integrated with the bone tissue. The second part of a two-stage procedure involves making a minor incision to open the gum for attaching the abutment.

4. Making the new teeth
Based on a final model, a dental technician will craft the crown, bridge or prosthesis, including color and shape considerations to match your new replacement teeth with your natural teeth.

5. Fitting and re-examination
When the tooth or teeth are ready, your dentist will attach them to the abutment. This is usually followed by routine visits to check functionality and esthetics.

A treatment tailored to you
When you are ready for dental implant therapy, a treatment plan will be tailored for you based on your needs, general state of health, and the quantity and quality of your bone tissue. These factors will also determine the total length for the overall treatment.

Treatment is usually carried out under a local anesthetic. In most cases, patients can leave the dental office directly after the procedure.

Your new teeth will require the same proper care and hygiene as natural teeth, including brushing and flossing. Carefully follow pre- and post-treatment instructions from your dental professional to ensure a successful, long-term outcome.
My Story: Peter Hjelm

“I forget that I have an implant for a front tooth,” says Peter Hjelm, a captain for a charter airline. “And I like it that way.”

“My brother and I played a lot of sports on the ice when we were teenagers,” explains Peter. “Sometimes the game got a bit rough and on one occasion my brother’s ice skate managed to hit my front tooth. Needless to say, it wasn’t a pleasant experience. The result was a damaged front tooth with a root canal filling. It functioned well enough for many years—until I bit into an apple and the entire root broke off! To make matters worse, I no longer had a good base for connecting a new tooth.

“After consulting my dentist, I realized that an implant would suit me perfectly. However, before the implant could be installed, the rest of my damaged root had to be extracted and the jawbone required time to heal. I received a temporary solution that I could remove myself. I wasn’t allowed to put any load on the jawbone so the temporary solution was more or less just for looks. In fact, when I was off duty I didn’t use it at all. Even with it on, I noticed that I really missed my real front tooth. I became more reserved and probably didn’t laugh as much as I used to.

“After a few months, it was time for the implant surgery. Everything went well and I didn’t feel much. In fact, I was much more comfortable compared to when I got the root canal filling. Today, I easily forget that I have an implant. It feels and looks just like a natural tooth.”

One tooth

A crown supported by an implant is an optimal choice if you are missing a single tooth.

1. An implant-supported crown can be an ideal treatment option if you are missing a tooth in either the upper or lower jaw and can provide a long-lasting esthetic solution.

2. The dental implant is placed in the jawbone.

3. The abutment is attached to the dental implant and a crown is then placed over the abutment.

4. The new tooth is now in place, and feels and functions like a natural tooth.
Several teeth

Implants for two or more missing teeth—
the next best thing to natural teeth!

1. Tooth loss in the back of the mouth is typically
caused by gum infection (periodontitis) or by a
cracked tooth due to previous fillings.

2. Implant-supported bridges eliminate the need
for healthy adjacent teeth to be ground down to
act as support.

3. Abutments are attached to the dental implants and
a bridge (row of teeth) is placed over the abutments.

4. The dental implant bridge is now in place and
can withstand the strong chewing forces that occur
in the back of the mouth, providing the form and
function of natural teeth.

“I would definitely make the same choice again!”

My Story: Carola Becker

“I’m a professional singer and in my
business looks are important, particularly
when performing on TV,” explains Carola
Becker. “The cameras are very intrusive
and reveal every detail of my face without
mercy—even the inside of my mouth!”

Carola lacks genes for four permanent teeth,
and at age 28 that she started having problems
with those four baby teeth. The time had come to
extract them.

“My dentist explained that he would have to
grind down eight of my healthy teeth to attach the
bridges that would replace my extracted baby
teeth. And my immediate reaction was: forget it!
So he suggested implant treatment and referred
me to a specialist. While waiting for the implants
to be installed, I had visible gaps in both the
upper and lower jaws. And they really affected
my self-confidence.

“When the time came to install the implants, I
was in the middle of doing a TV show about a
performing arts school, called Fame Factory. As
one of the students, I simply couldn’t be away for
long. Fortunately, I was back on the stage again
just a few days after the surgery. After a couple of
months the new crowns were attached.

“I am very satisfied with the result and would
definitely make the same choice all over again!”
All teeth

If you are missing all of your teeth, implant-supported overdentures can offer many benefits over traditional dentures.

1. If you have lost all of your teeth in one or both jaws, you can choose a permanently-anchored dental implant bridge or a removable prosthesis that is connected to two or more dental implants, called an overdenture.

2a. For a permanently-anchored dental implant bridge, several dental implants are placed to form a stable foundation.

3a. The abutments are attached to the dental implants and the bridge is fitted in place.

2b. An overdenture involves placing two or more dental implants that will be used as a secure foundation to attach the prosthesis.

3b. For the overdenture, either Locator™ abutments, ball abutments or a small bar between the abutments are used. The prosthesis is fitted with corresponding attachment components underneath.

4. The implant-supported bridge is put in place.

4. The implant-supported overdenture is put in place.
“Simply marvelous!”

My Story: Britt-Lis Nilsson

“Getting dental implants has made all the difference,” says Britt-Lis Nilsson. “Now I don’t have to worry about my teeth falling out and I can eat all my favorite foods again. It has meant so much to me.”

“I have always had bad teeth, and over the years I have had countless fillings, root canals and bridges,” explains Britt-Lis. “But, little by little, both the teeth that anchored the bridges and the root canals began to collapse. Finally I ended up with dentures in both the upper and lower jaw. The upper denture worked okay, but the lower denture was totally hopeless. It was always loose and constantly jiggling around—and this made me very insecure. I couldn’t even eat properly.

“So my dentist informed me about implants, explaining that they are fixed and function like natural teeth. It was an easy choice. Ever since I was a young girl, I have been afraid of the dentist. The surgery was performed under local anesthesia, and to my surprise the procedure was not uncomfortable at all! I was very well taken care of and not worried at all. Afterwards I received pain-relievers, but I don’t think I really needed them. In fact, getting a root canal was far more traumatic than getting the implants.

“Once the new teeth were in place it took a couple of days before I got used to them—after all, I had been without teeth for such a long time! The same day that I got my new teeth I celebrated with my two grown-up sons by having a nice dinner at a restaurant. For the first time in ages I was able to enjoy both the meal and the company without having to worry about my teeth.”
Considerations for implant candidates

Is there a minimum and maximum age for dental implants?
The jawbone should be fully matured at the time of implant placement. Implants are therefore usually recommended for people 18 years of age and older. The status of the bone’s development can be confirmed by your dentist via an x-ray examination.

On the other hand, there is no maximum age limit to receive implant treatment. Your dentist will inform you of any risks based on their assessment of your dental and general health.

How much does implant treatment cost?
The cost of your treatment will depend on the extent of the procedure(s) you will need. After a thorough examination of your individual clinical situation, your dentist will be able to review the various steps of the recommended procedure as well as the associated costs.

Something to keep in mind is that while the initial cost of an implant procedure could be higher than an alternative crown and bridge procedure, the life-expectancy of an implant is usually much longer and does not require the need to compromise other healthy teeth, which is an added value of implant treatment and can prove to be more cost-effective over time.

Are there any diseases that would prevent me from receiving implant placement?
In most cases, if the disease is managed, implant treatment is still a viable option. However, you should inform your dentist of your medical history and any other current medical conditions and/or diseases. Your dentist will review everything in detail before determining if you are a candidate for implants.

In some cases, side effects of medications may affect the healing process, so your dentist should also be informed of any medications that you are taking.

How long does an implant last?
After the healing phase, a properly placed and restored, high-quality implant supported by a good oral hygiene routine can last a lifetime.

Will I be in pain after the procedure?
The gum will probably be sensitive in the first few days after the procedure but will not bleed any more. Your cheek may swell for a short time and may feel uncomfortable. However, most patients will not even need a painkiller on the following day and can return to normal life.

Is it possible to be allergic to dental implants?
Allergies to metal are very rare, and dental implants are made of titanium, which is a metal that is well-accepted by the body. If you have any concerns, you should discuss them with your dentist.

Will implants set off metal detectors, such as at an airport check?
No. Because implants are not magnetic, they do not set off metal detectors.

Could implants affect my cardiac pacemaker?
No. Implants have no electromagnetic effect, and therefore, do not affect the operation of your pacemaker in any way.

Are there differences in quality among different implant brands?
Like most products, implant options can range from being low to very high in quality. For example, differences in implant design, surface and even shape can have an impact.
on the maintenance of bone and soft tissue around the implant over time. Where and how an implant is manufactured can also vary in quality. It is also important to note that some implant systems are backed by extensive scientific research and documentation, while others have very minimal clinical evidence or data to confirm their results. These are some important considerations you may want to ask your doctor about in order to understand what implant brand they will be using for your care.

Are there any risks involved with implant placement?
The placement of an implant is considered a minor surgical procedure. But as with all procedures, complications and side effects, while uncommon, are possible. Speak with your dental care provider to understand their experience with providing implant therapy and to get the details on risks and other considerations.

If I’m a smoker, can I still get implants?
In addition to the other health risks, the long-term success rate of implants can be compromised by smoking. It is recommended that you speak with your dentist to determine if implants are a viable solution for you.

The implant treatment procedure

How long does an implant procedure take?
The total length of your implant procedure will depend on the number of implants you are receiving and what other procedures (e.g. bone grafting) are required. Following a thorough examination, your dentist will be able to provide you with further information about the approximate length of your treatment.

Is a general anesthesia necessary for implant placement?
In most cases, only local anesthesia is necessary for an implant procedure. However, if you have any concerns or specific preferences, you should discuss them with your dentist to determine the best solution for you.

What is bone grafting and when is it necessary?
Bone grafting is a surgical procedure that is often required if the quantity and/or quality of your jawbone is not sufficient for the implant being placed. If you require bone grafting, your dentist will review your options with you, as well as what the procedure will entail.

Can implants be placed immediately after removing teeth?
Depending on the condition of the extraction site and considerations such as bone quality and quantity, it is possible for an implant to be placed immediately following a tooth extraction. This is referred to as “immediate implant placement.”

Will I have a replacement tooth the same day I get my implant?
The standard protocol for implant-supported crowns or bridges most often includes a healing phase where there is no force (load) on the implant immediately after it is placed. In these situations, space left by the missing tooth is temporarily restored with a traditional temporary denture, which is usually attached to the neighboring teeth. However, in immediate loading, new implant systems and methods are
used that under specific conditions allow the denture or the temporary denture to be attached to the implants immediately. Patients receive their implant and have fixed, natural looking teeth on the same day. Whether immediate loading is suitable for you will depend on the state of the jawbone and the position of the implants. Ask your dentist about the options.

If I already have a conventional denture, will I need a new one for attachment to implants?
Depending on the condition of your existing denture, it may be possible to have it modified to work with the implants. After evaluation of clinical condition and existing denture, your dentist will be able to review with you your treatment options.

After treatment

How do I care for my implants?
As with the maintenance of your natural teeth, routine check-ups and cleaning are a critical part of caring for your new implant-supported tooth/teeth to help eliminate the risk of bacteria, which could lead to the loss of an implant. This can be avoided with regular professional dental cleaning to supplement your daily regimen of routine brushing and flossing. Your dental care provider will give you specific aftercare instructions, which should be carefully followed.

Can I chew and eat normally with an implant-supported denture?
Regardless of whether you have an implant-supported crown, bridge or denture, you will be able to eat, speak and smile again with confidence. Unlike traditional dentures that rely on messy adhesives, implant-supported dentures are firmly attached to your implants for optimized function.

Will I have to remove an implant-supported denture at night?
While it is recommended that a conventional denture be removed at night because it may come loose during sleep, an implant-supported denture is more securely fixed in place and can be left in place at night. Depending on the type implant-supported overdenture that you have, specific aftercare may be required, which your doctor will review with you.

When can I return to work?
The days needed to recover from implant surgery varies depending on the procedure and individual patient situation. In many cases, implant patients have returned to work as soon as the next day. Your dentist can provide specific guidance based on your individual need.

Can I still exercise and play sports after implant placement?
Exercise after implant placement is not a problem. However, if you take part in activities involving vigorous movement immediately following your surgery, you should first consult with your dentist.
Learn how quality dental implants by DENTSPLY Implants can give you the beauty of natural teeth—speak with your dentist today.

Read more about dental implants at www.implantsforlife.com
Learn how quality dental implants by DENTSPLY Implants can give you the beauty of natural teeth—speak with your dentist today.