



Factsheet

Cosmetic dentistry

Cosmetic dentistry focuses on improving the look of your teeth and smile. This may involve changing the shape, colour or position of teeth, or replacing missing teeth. Treatments can range from minor fixes, like repairing a chipped tooth, to more complex procedures such as straightening teeth.

Before you start treatment – go see your dentist:

- Treat any dental disease first. Your health is the priority.
- Identify the cause of the unsatisfactory appearance of your teeth.
- Discuss suitable treatment options.
- Develop a realistic plan that suits your needs.

What are some common types of cosmetic treatment?

Whitening

Bleaching gel is used at home or in clinic to lighten natural teeth. This whitens natural tooth structure but does not whiten fillings, dentures or crowns.

Orthodontics

Braces or thin clear plastic trays that are used to move teeth position and often straighten teeth.

Veneers

A thin layer of filling or ceramic material glued onto the front tooth surface. Some of the tooth surface may need to be polished off to create space for the material.

Crowns

A ceramic or metal shell that covers your entire tooth. Removal of tooth structure is usually required to make space for the crown.

Implants

A titanium screw placed in the jaw bone, onto which a ceramic tooth is attached, to replace a missing tooth.

Dentures

A removable set of teeth to replace missing teeth.

Some treatments are more complex than others and need ongoing care. There is no single “best” option and what’s right for you depends on your goals and oral health. Speak with your dentist to find the best approach for you.

