



Orthodontics for Adults: Treatment Options for Patients Over 21



It's a common misconception that braces are only for children or teenagers. The truth is that it's never too late to have make sure your teeth are properly aligned, providing you with the smile you deserve. As a matter of fact, you may be surprised to learn that one in every five orthodontic patients is an adult over the age of 21. It's true, and as more and more adults discover the benefits associated with having a healthy, happy smile, that number continues to grow. Molen Orthodontics has established a reputation as experts in treating adult patients and treat more adults as a percentage of their practice than the average orthodontist.

Achieving a Beautiful, Natural Smile with Braces & Invisalign

As an adult, you probably didn't expect to be on the verge of starting orthodontic treatment, but the truth is that, at Molen, we regularly treat patients from 7 to 70+ years old. Regardless of your age or the treatment you need, we make every effort to make sure that you're comfortable throughout your journey. Our goal has never been to see the most patients possible, but rather to ensure our patients get the care, respect, and treatment they deserve.

What this means is we'll take the time to walk you through your treatment, making sure that you will receive exactly what you need, not just the quickest means to an end. Your treatment will be comfortable, discreet, and, most importantly, result in a look that perfectly matches the structure of your face and lips. We here at Molen understand that orthodontic treatment is an investment, which is why we go above and beyond to ensure that you're happy with everything we do.

Health Benefits of Braces & Invisalign for Adults

Choosing to properly align your teeth results in more than just a natural, happy smile—it can also prevent or improve a wide range of health conditions, including:

- Headaches
- Neck pain
- Shoulder pain
- TMJ pain

If you have any of these health conditions, we will evaluate if there is a possible orthodontic component to them and determine if orthodontic care might alleviate some of your symptoms. Since these issues can be complex and multi-factorial in nature, we may need to refer you to additional specialists to ensure you get the comprehensive care you deserve.

In addition to improving these conditions, taking the time to invest in properly aligned teeth can also result in a smile that is much easier to clean and take care of during and after treatment. Properly aligned teeth can also help to reduce the risk of you developing gum disease. Perhaps most importantly, with us, you can rest assured that your teeth will continue to look their best throughout your lifetime.

Discreet, Dependable Treatment Options

At Molen, we offer treatment options that will not only give you a great smile, they'll also result in teeth that perfectly complement and encourage facial harmony. In order to achieve this, we place our braces higher on your teeth than traditional orthodontists so that your smile's final emergence angles are far more natural. We also do everything we can to avoid the removal of healthy adult teeth. Instead, we ensure your teeth come together in a way that looks great, all while taking care to provide you with the best smile possible. Let's take a look at some of the treatment options we can offer you here at Molen Orthodontics.

Damon Clear Braces

Damon Clear braces are among the most discreet orthodontic treatment options available today. As a matter of fact, there's a good chance others won't even realize that you're wearing them.



The Damon Clear option combines clear braces that don't require the use of colored rubber ties along with broad high-tech orthodontic wires that exert a consistent, gentle pressure on your teeth, resulting in a comfortable treatment process that requires less frequent adjustments.

With less pressure on your teeth and more comfort overall, Damon Clear braces are a popular treatment option and will provide you with a beautiful and natural-looking smile that is sure to draw compliments.

Invisalign

Another popular treatment option here at Molen Orthodontics for adults interested in improving their smile is Invisalign. Invisalign is different from more common treatment options. Invisalign forgoes traditional braces and wires and instead uses

a series of clear, removable orthodontic aligners that slowly and comfortably shift your teeth into place. These custom-made aligners are worn 22 hours a day for a period of one to two weeks and then replaced with new ones until your teeth have progressively been moved into place. The number of aligners you will require depends on how complex your case is and your unique treatment plan.

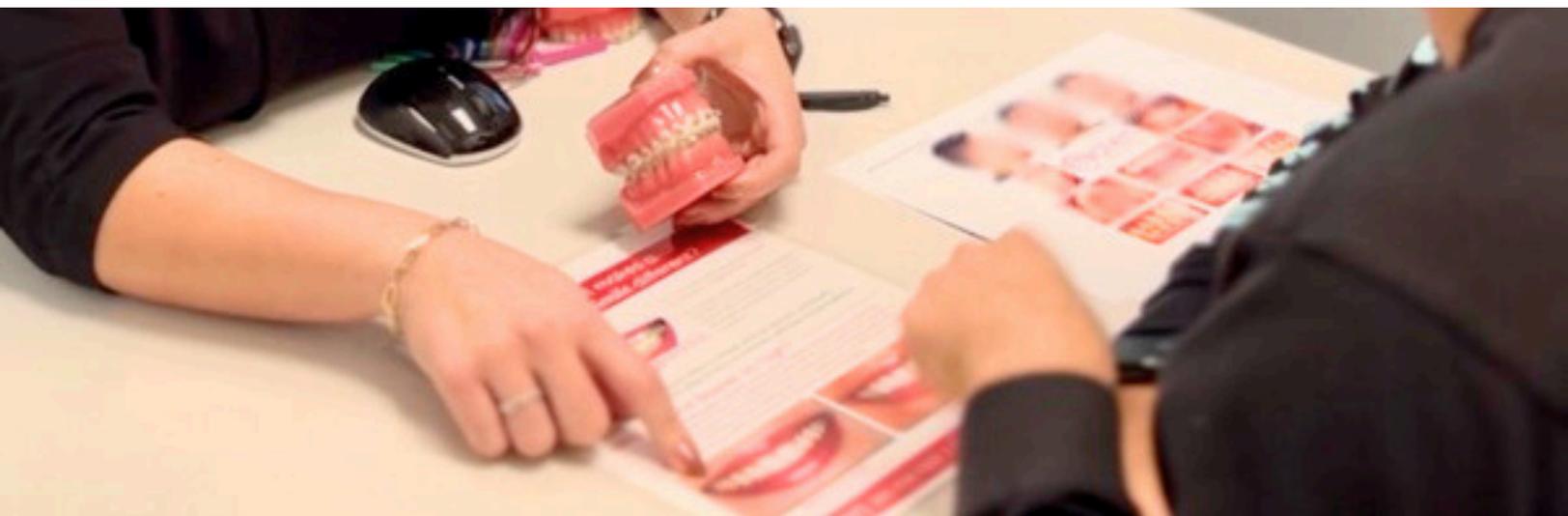
One of the top reasons Invisalign is such a popular choice for adults is its nearly invisible appearance while being worn. Plus, the smooth plastic aligners are designed for comfort, so they won't irritate the inside of your mouth.



Of course, another feature that makes Invisalign so popular is that the aligners are removable. Because of this, you'll never have to worry about whether or not you're allowed to eat certain foods, nor will you have to worry about getting food stuck in your aligners. Your teeth are also much easier to brush and floss when you have the ability to remove your aligners. What's more, you won't have to worry about damaging your aligners when you're playing sports as you can simply pop them out when necessary.

The Difference Between an Orthodontist and a Dentist

An orthodontist is a dental specialist who can diagnose, prevent, and treat dental and facial irregularities. In order to become an orthodontist, three additional years of specialized education at an accredited university is required beyond dental school. During that time, orthodontists learn the proper way to align and straighten teeth. Sadly, patients can be misled into believing that their primary care dentist is a trained orthodontic specialist. Though dentists may take online or weekend courses that give them a certificate or membership in a dental-orthodontic association, this is not the same as attending an admissions-based accredited university program where training occurs daily over the course of three years. Thankfully most primary care dentists recognize the complexity of orthodontic treatment and refer their patients to an orthodontic specialist. However, there is a minority of dentists who attempt to render orthodontic treatment on their own without the knowledge afforded by attending a university residency training program.





Cost & Length of Adult Treatment

When you choose the team at Molen Orthodontics for your orthodontic treatment, you'll receive the type of care you deserve. We go the extra mile to ensure not only that your teeth look their absolute best, but that your results feel completely natural and complement your facial aesthetics perfectly. When estimating the cost of Invisalign, there are a number of factors to keep in mind. Since no two cases are exactly alike, there's no fixed price for treatment. For example, solving a more complex problem will always cost more than fixing a simple one. In the same way that building a more complex house on a challenging uneven plot of land will always cost more than building a simple house on a flat piece of dry land. Because of this, we recommend you visit us here at Molen Orthodontics for a FREE consultation and a precise quote based on your unique circumstances, issues, and goals. At Molen, we understand that cost can be an important factor for patients when deciding whether or not treatment is right for them. We never want cost to stand in the way of a patient and their oral health, which is why we're 100% committed to working with you to find a financing option that works within your budget. We offer flexible payment plans and interest-free financing so you can have the custom-designed smile you've always wanted. In addition, we are happy to work with your insurance company to maximize your coverage and save you money. Check with your insurance provider for more information about your individual plan and coverage.

When choosing braces or other corrective alternatives such as Invisalign, it's worth noting that the cost can be partially offset by insurance coverage. Molen Orthodontics is happy to work with your insurance provider to make sure you get as much coverage as possible. Many private or employer-provided plans do offer specific coverage for orthodontic treatment. Some plans also offer Health Savings Accounts, which can also be applied towards orthodontic treatment. Extra savings can be had if you and your partner have separate benefit plans, as you may be able to coordinate your benefits. The claim for orthodontics would be submitted to one plan first (generally the one belonging to the partner whose birthday comes first in the calendar year), with the remainder to be submitted to the other partner's plan. Every plan's rules are unique though, so we'll be happy to review your plan's unique benefits and limitations during your initial consultation. And be sure to hang on to your receipts for treatment. You may be able to submit as a health expense whatever is not covered by your dental insurance when you file your income taxes. More and more, adults are taking the time to invest in the happy, healthy smiles they deserve. Because of this, we choose never to cut corners, and only use the highest quality products available. We work hard to be leaders in our field and to ensure you receive the smile you've always deserved. Ultimately we are proud to say that we are exceptional at what we do. When you choose to come to us for your treatment, you will quickly discover why everyone knows that the best smiles must be Molen!





To learn more about about our unique approach to your treatment, as well as for customized information about pricing and payment options, we encourage you to...

SCHEDULE A **FREE** CONSULTATION TODAY



Creating A Family Of Smiles™

253-939-2552 · molensmiles.com

Auburn · Enumclaw · Sumner · Bonney Lake