



## Goodwin & Associates Dental Practice

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### Patient Information Bridges



#### What is a Bridge?

A bridge fixes a replacement tooth (or teeth) to the natural teeth on either side of the gap. Some bridges have crowns at each end while others are fixed to the surface of the teeth next to the gap.

#### What does treatment for a bridge involve?

The dentist will prepare the teeth to the ideal shape for the bridge to be fitted on to. This will involve removing most of the outer surface, and leaving a stronger inner core. Once the tooth has been shaped, the dentist will then take an impression (mould) of the teeth and one of the opposite jaw. A temporary bridge/crown made of plastic or metal will be fixed over the teeth until the permanent bridge is made. You can chew on the temporary bridge but it won't be as strong as the finished one.

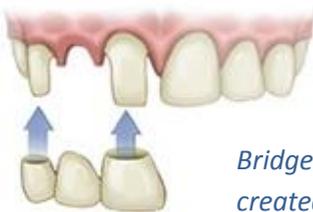
Your moulds are then sent to the dental technician so that they can make your bridge. It takes the dental technician 2-3 weeks to make your bridge. The dentist will try your bridge in to make sure it fits, and if you are happy they will fix it in place with special dental cement.



*Missing tooth*



*Adjacent teeth prepared*



*Bridge  
created*



*Bridge cemented in place*