

Space Maintainers



Primary (baby) teeth are important for holding space for the un-erupted permanent tooth. With early loss of a primary tooth, the neighboring teeth may tip or drift into the space, leaving little or no space for the permanent tooth to erupt. A spacer is recommended to preserve the space and prevent this from happening. There are several different types of space maintainers, and they are custom made to fit your child's mouth. Once placed, permanent tooth eruption will be monitored and the spacer will be removed when needed.



Post-Operative Instructions

- Your child will be numb for 1-4 hours. During this time, avoid eating foods that require much chewing.
- To properly place the spacer, work must be done just below the gumline; therefore, expect your child's gums to be sore for 2-3 days. Your child's gum tissue may bleed upon brushing for the next few days. To help with healing, keep the area clean by gently brushing 2-3 times a day and floss.
- Do not allow your child to pick or pull at the space maintainer. Avoid sticky hard candies for the life of the spacer. Continuous force and pressure can cause it to become loose and fall off.

(317) 598-9898

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