



# Gentle Dental - A Guide to Bridgework

Gentle Dental

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## What is bridgework?

Bridgework provides an artificial replacement for missing teeth. As opposed to dentures which are removable by the patient, bridgework is permanently fixed to other teeth or implants.

Why is bridgework needed?

Lost teeth can cause other teeth to overerupt or tilt, hastening the loss of other teeth. Replacing missing teeth can improve appearance and self esteem. Bridgework should also allow for improved chewing of and enjoyment of food.

Do they hurt?

No.

How do they work?

There are two types. Adhesive bridgework is stuck to teeth with minimal preparation, whereas fixed bridgework involves trimming 30% off teeth on either side of the missing tooth, and providing crowns which suspend the missing teeth on the span in-between.



Have confidence in your smile

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## Are they as good as my natural teeth?

Yes

What does it involve?

Two or three visits are usually necessary, sometimes including a visit to the technician. At the preparation visit, temporary crowns are made to tide the patient over for the two weeks until the bridgework is completed.

### Special points of interest:

- Bridgework looks like natural teeth.
- It can replace from between one and six missing teeth in a single span.
- Bridges are permanently cemented.
- A well made bridge should serve for 20 years or more.
- Some types of bridgework need little or no drilling of the teeth

## What will my teeth look like after treatment?

Like your old teeth (or better!). We have two different standards of bridgework. Our basic standard are good quality strong teeth that perform well. The deluxe teeth are more natural, but cost about 20% more.

Are there any contra-indications

If you have just lost a tooth you should consider waiting three to six months before getting the bridgework done as the gum will still be shrinking. In the meantime, you could, if you wish have a temporary denture or temporary bridgework made to hide the gap.



Peace of mind

## So what are they made of?

Occasionally we will use all gold bridgework, but more commonly they are made with a gold substructure with porcelain fused to the top. Occasionally we may use special types of all porcelain bridges.

Is it expensive?

No, bridgework starts at £475. We always quote patients for this type of procedure.

*“Bridgework starts at £475”*

## Where can this treatment be obtained?

We are happy to provide bridgework at *Gentle Dental*.



A natural looking smile