

Our Mission Statement:

“Our aim is to deliver the highest standard of care in a comfortable and friendly environment”



CASTLE DENTAL CARE
we'll take care of you

First Floor,
Tangmere Square,
Castle Vale,
Birmingham
B35 6DL
Tel: 08443878877

www.castledentalcare.org.uk

Opening Hours

Monday 9am - 5.00 pm
Tuesday 10am - 5.00pm
Wednesday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Thursday 8.30am - 4.30pm
Friday 8.30am - 3.45 pm

Wheelchair access is available



Tell me about

Fillings



I need a filling. What types are there?

Amalgam (silver coloured)
Composite (tooth coloured)
Glass Ionomer (tooth coloured)

What are amalgam fillings?



Amalgam fillings are made of a combination of metals including silver, tin, copper and mercury. Amalgam is extremely durable and able to withstand the grinding and chewing of your back teeth over long periods of time.

Is Amalgam safe?

Research into the safety of dental amalgam has been carried out for over 100 years. There is no evidence of a connection between amalgam fillings and any medical problem.

What are the advantages of amalgam?

- Amalgam fillings are strong and can withstand heavy biting pressure, and are therefore used primarily for the back teeth.
- Widely considered to be the least technique sensitive type of filling material.
- A long history of successful use

- in the treatment of dental decay.
- Metal ion release can limit the spread of new decay under amalgam fillings.

What are the disadvantages of amalgam?

- Amalgam fillings do not harden immediately.
- More tooth structure is lost because the dentist has to make a bigger preparation.
- Amalgam can darken over time as it corrodes. This does not affect the function of the filling.

What are composite fillings?

Composite fillings are tooth coloured and are made from powdered glass quartz, silica or other ceramic particles added to a resin base. After the tooth is prepared, the filling is bonded onto the area and a light shone onto it to set it. The dentist will choose a shade to match your existing teeth. Composite is used for most fillings in front teeth and, increasingly for fillings in posterior teeth.



What are the advantages of composite?

- Colour and shading can be matched to the existing tooth.
- Composite is a relatively strong adhesive material, providing good durability.
- Permits preservation of as much of the tooth as possible.

What are the disadvantages of composite?

- Composites can shrink away from the tooth forming a gap where decay can start.
- Composites are technique sensitive and time consuming to place.
- Can pick up stain.
- Composite is generally more expensive than amalgam.
- May wear faster than dental enamel.
- Can experience more sensitivity

What are glass ionomer fillings?

Glass ionomer forms a chemical link with the tooth and bonds directly. It releases fluoride which helps to prevent further tooth decay.

How do I care for fillings?

Good oral hygiene is needed to prevent spread of decay under fillings. Brush twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste and clean in between your teeth with 'interdental' brushes or floss.

What are the risks?

- Sensitivity is a common after effect of a newly placed filling.
- Care must be taken when chewing on fillings particularly amalgam during the first 48 hours to avoid breakage.
- With deep fillings, there is a risk the nerve may become affected which may cause pain. This may then require root canal treatment or extraction in future at an additional cost.