

Dental Implants Guide

Looking to enhance your smile even more?

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\$99 New Patient Offer!

Wow, isn't that fantastic? I know, we thought so too!

At Bite Dental we offer \$99 new patient consultations to have you and your dental health on the right track.

Come into our clinic in Brisbane CBD for your check-up and clean, and tell us what treatments you may be looking for, all for \$99.

What are Dental Implants?

Dental implants are the solution to permanently replacing missing teeth, they are the closest you will get to a natural tooth. Dental implants involve a titanium screw being drilled down into your jawbone to act just like a natural root. Over time the bone heals and fuses to the screw to hold it in place.

Once fully healed, the screw is topped with an artificial tooth or crown to restore the full function of your smile. However, dental implants are also used to hold dental bridges and dentures in place.



Who are dental implants for?

There are more ways to replace missing teeth than dental implants, and the most suitable treatment varies per patient. However, for a dental implant, it's most suitable for patients who want a permanent replacement if the patient:

- Has a healthy jaw bone
- Has no conditions impacting bone growth abilities
- Is completely free from gum disease
- Has one or more missing teeth
- Is committed to spending several months
- Does not smoke tobacco

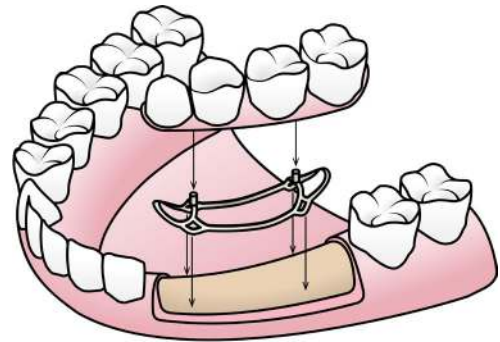
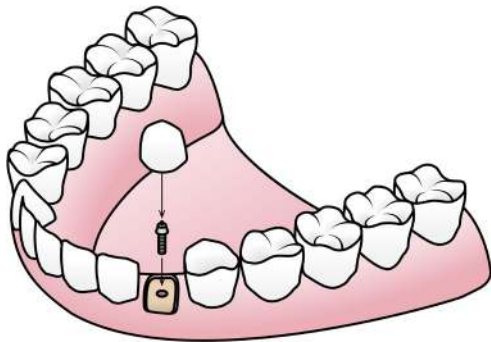
Dental implants should not be carried out on patients who are lacking jaw bone density or ongoing oral health issues such as gum disease.

Types of dental implants

There are two types of dental implants, the Endosteal and the Subperiosteal.

Endosteal implant: The most common type of implant which is screwed into the jaw bone using a titanium screw usually. Over the following months after this implant, then bone fuses the implant down.

Subperiosteal implant: Dental implants which rest above or on the jawbone and below the gumline. This implant is generally used for patients who don't have adequate jaw bone and don't want to undergo a bone augmentation.



Dental Implant Procedure

Preparing for a dental implant

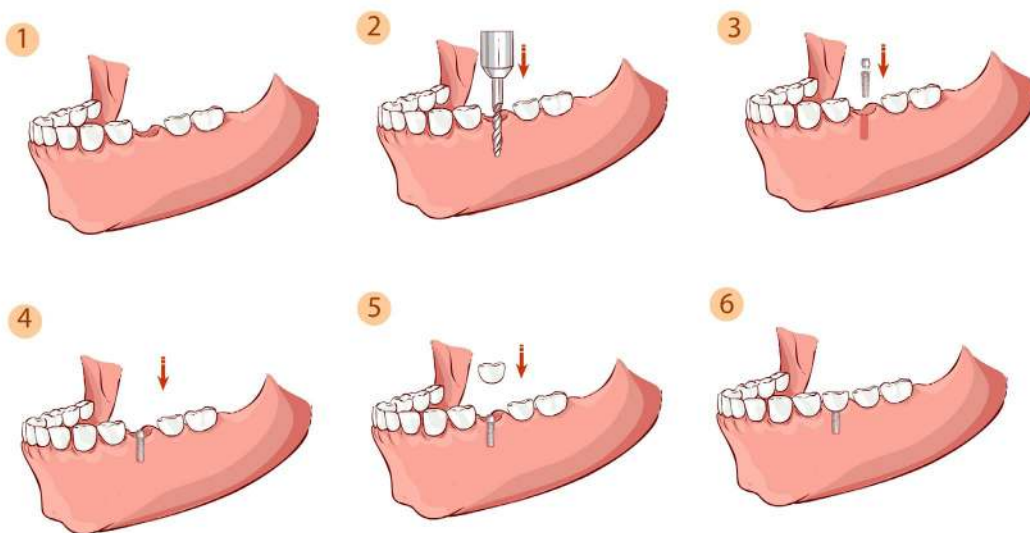
To prepare for a dental implant at Bite Dental, you will have to undertake a series of evaluations by a dentist, maxillofacial surgeon, periodontist, prosthodontist and occasionally an ear, nose and throat (ENT) specialist.

Evaluations include:

- Comprehensive dental exam which includes x-rays and 3D imaging.
- Review of your medical history to outline any medical conditions, medications or other issues that require changes to your treatment plan.
- Your treatment plan will be tailored to you and factor in all potential risks and issues.

Outline of the dental implant procedure

- Removal of any damaged tooth
- Preparation of the jaw bone if needed (bone grafting, augmentation)
- Dental implant is placed
- Dental implant healing process
- Placement of the abutment (connection between screw and false tooth)
- Placement of the artificial tooth



Dental Implant Procedure

Placement of the dental implant

For the procedure you will be under a local anesthetic or sedation, it's your choice. The oral surgeon will cut into your gum to expose the bone. They will drill deep down into your jaw bone so that a dental implant can be inserted to act as a tooth root. Your permanent tooth will not be placed on top, however in some circumstances you can have a temporary denture inserted.

Over several months, a process known as osseointegration will occur where the bone grows and fuses the dental implant down. The implant must be fused down in place before receiving the artificial tooth, as the implant must be able to support the pressure generated by the human bite.

Placement of the abutment

Once the osseointegration process has finished, you will be ready to begin the next step where the abutment is inserted. The abutment may require additional minor surgery, with local anesthetic to reopen the gum tissue to expose the dental implant. The abutment is the connecting element between the dental implant and false tooth.

Once the abutment has been inserted, you will have to wait about two weeks for your gum to heal, before the tooth is placed. Please also note that in some circumstances, the abutment can be placed along with the dental implant, skipping this entire step.

Your artificial tooth

You will have impressions taken of your mouth and other teeth to help us create a perfectly fitted realistic crown for your bite. You have choices for your artificial tooth, either a removable, fixed or combination of both.

The fixed tooth will be cemented down onto the implant abutment, however the removable tooth will be attached to a metal frame which snaps down onto the dental abutment. This tooth can be removed daily for cleaning.



Benefits of a dental implant

In comparison to other tooth replacement options, dental implants offer the following benefits:

- Permanent option
- Natural appearance
- Improved speech
- Less discomfort
- Easier to chew and bite
- Improved oral health
- Durability and strength
- Convenient to clean

Are dental implants safe?

Dental implants are safe and extremely effective at replacing missing teeth when done by dentists with adequate knowledge and expertise, such as at Bite Dental in Brisbane CBD.

The procedure is performed on patients with good health and adequate jaw bone which prevents many issues from occurring.



Frequently asked questions

How long does treatment take?

The entire dental implant procedure usually takes between 6-8 months, unless complex issues are present. The procedure takes this long, as you must wait for the jaw bone to fuse the implant down. However to place specifically one implant, it will only take around 30 minutes to complete.

Side-effects of the dental implant procedure?

During the procedure, you will not suffer any discomfort due to anesthetic or sedation. However once these wear off you will begin feeling some sort of discomfort and pain, especially depending on the amount of implants you had inserted. You may experience:

- Discomfort and pain
- Bruising of your skin and gums
- Minor bleeding
- Swelling of your gums

To minimise the pain, you may be told to take certain antibiotics or medications post implant surgery. If any symptoms worsen or do not clear up over a couple of days, please contact your oral surgeon immediately.

Do I need an implant for each missing tooth

No, if you have multiple missing teeth, you do not need an implant for every tooth. The number of implants you receive depends on how many teeth you have missing. Think of it like this; we estimate you to require two dental implants to hold down 4-5 teeth. However, for patients missing entire dental arches, you can choose to have the entire arch replaced by between 4 to 6 dental implants.

How do I clean dental implants?

You must treat your dental implants just like natural teeth. Make sure to brush twice a day with a soft-bristled toothbrush and low-abrasive toothpaste. You must also floss daily and wash your mouth out over the course of the day to wash away excess acids and food debris. Removable implants should be removed for cleaning and you must also brush under the implant to remove harmful trapped bacteria.

What happens if my implants fail to fuse with the bone?

Certain situations including trauma, infections, smoking and a lack of healthy jaw bone are all contributors to implants failing to fuse. You will know if the implant failed to fuse, as the implant will move around and cause discomfort. You can choose to have the implant replaced, and many patients have a successful second implant. Before opting to have the treatment redone, you must wait three months for your bone to heal.

About Bite Dental

At Bite Dental you'll receive the most thorough, tried and proven dental treatments in a comfortable, modern studio equipped with the latest dental equipment and technology.

After working within specialist practices around Brisbane for nearly a decade, our founding dentist, Dr Simon Franks found a need for quality dental work matched with genuine care. In 2010, he launched Bite Dental Studios in the Brisbane CBD, with a vision of the highest quality dental care matched with approachable, friendly and compassionate service that you wouldn't normally expect from a dentist.

At Bite Dental, we avoid the term patient — it projects the wrong impression of what we're about. Instead you're our client, and our clients are our friends. The team at Bite prides itself on taking the time to listen to your concerns and to openly discuss your treatment options, ensuring a tailored dental experience that you're in control of.

Our philosophy

Do you ever feel like you were rushed through an appointment or treated like a number? You'll never feel that here! At Bite Dental, we've taken our three core values of time, quality and friendliness to the next level. Not all dental clinics are created equal.

The Bite team knows that when dentistry is rushed, dental workers have no time to be gentle or simply make sure that you're faring well. When corners are cut, mistakes often happen, and that is not okay with us.

Our comprehensive approach to oral health means any treatment you have with us will be thorough and completed with the utmost care. We like to think we've brought back the real 'family dentist' approach.

At Bite you'll see your same friendly dentist each visit — the one that knows you, your health and how best to look after you.



Dental Implants from Bite Dental



If you would like to learn more about dental implants, or to book an appointment, **please contact us today.**

07 3221 5399

smile@bitedental.com.au

bitedental.com.au

Level 17 / 141 Queen St, Brisbane City, Q 4000