

Porcelain Veneers

What are porcelain veneers?

Porcelain veneers are thin layers that are created to fit over the front of the teeth to make them more aesthetically pleasing.

Who can benefit from having porcelain veneers?

People who suffer from broken, chipped or crooked teeth may benefit from having porcelain veneers. Teeth that have been discolored, decayed or have gaps may also be suit porcelain veneers.

Procedure

You will have an initial consultation with your dentist to come to an agreement about what you want to achieve through your new porcelain veneers. Your dentist will then shape the front of the teeth using a dental drill or file, before taking an impression of the front surface to create a mould. Over the next 2-3 weeks, this mould is then used to create your porcelain veneers, which are based on the agreed shape, size and color discussed at your initial consultation. You may be offered temporary veneers while you wait for your permanent porcelain veneers to be fitted. During your next appointment, your teeth are cleaned and the front surface roughened so that your new porcelain veneers will adhere to the original teeth. Special dental cement is then used to hold the new porcelain veneers in place.

Recovery period

Porcelain veneers should last you between 5-10 years, and many dentists will guarantee their work for the first couple of years. Your dentist will discuss any necessary issues about what you should eat or drink following the fitting of your porcelain veneers.

Risks

There is a small risk that the porcelain veneers may come apart from the original teeth, which can lead to infection if they no longer sit flush against the tooth. There is also a small risk of cracking.