



Your Filling Choices

For your dental health.

Every time you make a purchase, you're faced with choices. You have choices when it comes to the fillings in your teeth, too.

Silver amalgam fillings

Silver amalgam is the most common filling material. It's strong, does the job, and is convenient because we can use it to restore a tooth in just one appointment. It is the least expensive filling material, but as the years go by it will wear out and have to be replaced. We can replace a filling only so many times before so much tooth structure has been lost that you need a crown instead. A silver amalgam filling may actually be your most expensive option in the long run because of the additional work that may eventually be needed.



Silver filling

Resin fillings

Tooth-colored resin fillings, like silver amalgam fillings, can be completed in a single appointment. They're about as durable as amalgam fillings, but they provide additional strength because they're bonded directly to the teeth. They're more expensive than amalgam fillings, but the cost may be worth it if you want to maintain natural looking teeth and add strength to the tooth in the process.



Resin filling

Onlays

An onlay fills a tooth like a filling, but it also covers the biting surface like a crown. Like a crown, an onlay is crafted in a dental laboratory to precisely fit your tooth, and as a result, requires two or more appointments to place. Onlays are initially more expensive than amalgam or resin fillings. However, they may ultimately be less expensive because they're more durable and may reduce the need for a crown in the future.



An onlay

Onlays can be made of porcelain or gold. Porcelain onlays can be made to closely match your natural tooth color, so they look great. If you want the most durable option, then gold overlays may be your best choice. Gold is an extremely strong material and creates a very accurate fit.

We'll be happy to discuss your options with you and answer any further questions you may have about these restorative materials and procedures.