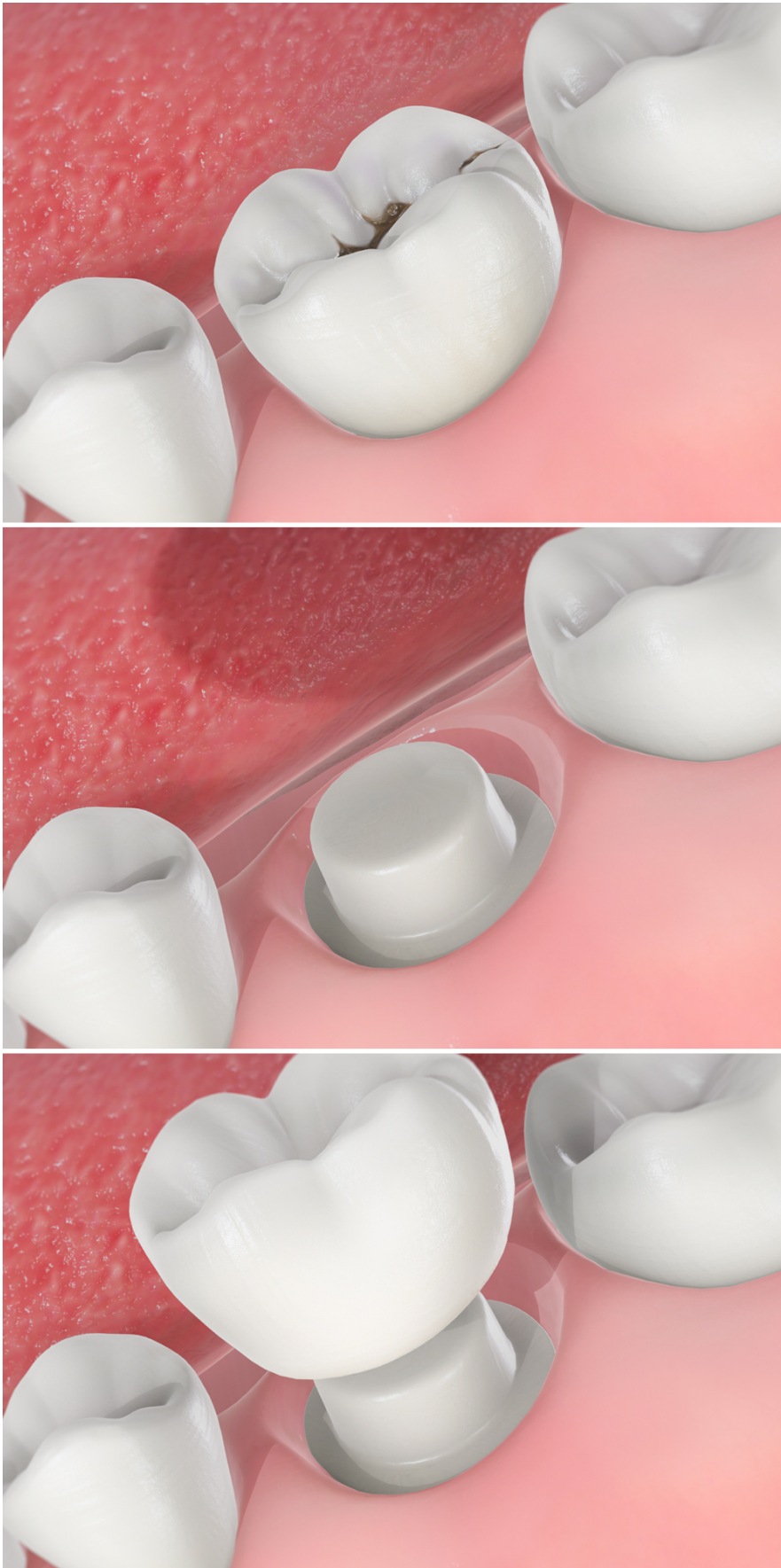




Dental Crown



Overview

This is a cap that is permanently placed over your tooth. It's designed to cover and protect it. A crown can strengthen a tooth that's weak or damaged. It restores a decayed tooth's appearance. It can be used to attach a bridge, or to cover a dental implant or a tooth that has been treated with a root canal.

Materials

Crowns are made from many materials. They can be metal, ceramic, porcelain, resin or a combination of materials. They differ in price, appearance and durability.

Types

Some crowns cover the entire tooth. Others only cover part of your tooth, such as the broken cusp of a molar. This type of crown is called an "onlay." An onlay is a good choice for a tooth that is damaged but is still strong.

Fitting

Getting a crown may require one or two visits, depending on the process your dentist uses. If you're having a same-day crown, the dentist scans your tooth to make a 3D model. Then, the outer portion of your tooth is removed. Finally, your dentist creates and places your permanent crown. But if your crown will be made offsite, you'll come for two visits. During the first, your dentist scans or makes a mold of your tooth. Then, they prepare your tooth and fit you with a temporary crown that you'll wear while your permanent crown is made. When it's ready, you'll come back so the temporary crown can be removed and the permanent one put in place.

Conclusion

If you have a discolored, decayed or broken tooth, a crown can help restore your smile. Talk to your dentist to find out which type of crown may be right for you.