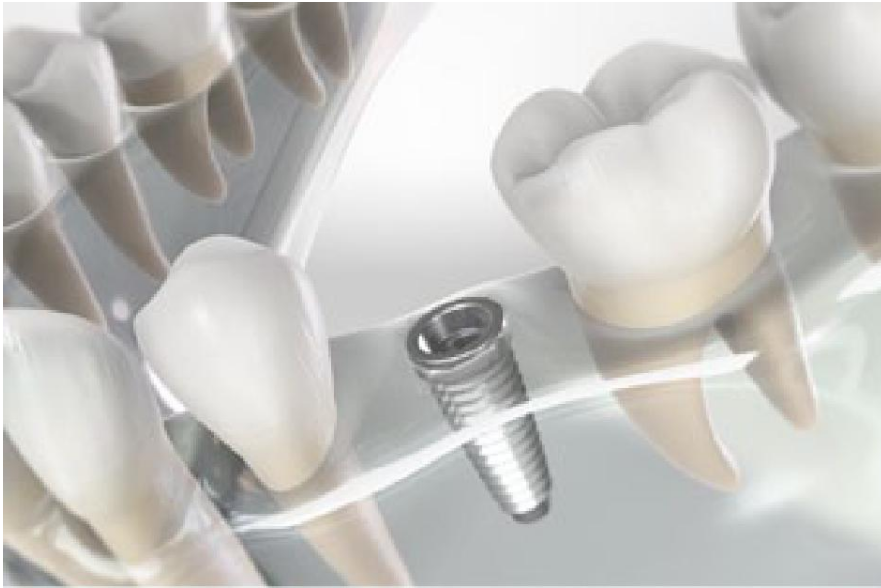




## Dental Implant



### Overview

This is a type of artificial tooth. It's held in place by a metal post that's surgically embedded in your jawbone. A dental implant can look and perform just like a real tooth.

### Why get an implant

An implant is an alternative to dentures or a bridge. Because it's permanently implanted, it won't ever slip out of place or make noise. It won't be uncomfortable. And it won't ever decay.

### Parts of an implant

An implant has three parts. The first is a titanium post. It's surgically implanted in your jaw where the roots of your tooth used to be. Your jawbone grows around this post, fusing with it. The second part of the implant is called an "abutment." It's an extension that screws into the post and sticks out of your gum. The third part is the tooth. It's made to perfectly match your other teeth. And it attaches to the abutment.

### Conclusion

Getting a dental implant can require a few different procedures, and months of healing time. But the final result is a strong, permanent fix for your smile. Talk to your dentist to find out if an implant is right for you.