



What to Expect with **Your New Partial**

A new partial is like a new pair of shoes.

It may take some time to wear them in and for your mouth to get used to them. The muscles in your tongue, cheeks, and lips will eventually figure out the appropriate positioning.

You will need to relearn how to speak.

This may take some time. Practice by reading aloud with your new partial.

You will need to relearn how to eat.

Start with a softer diet. Eat tougher foods as you become more comfortable.

Adhesive may be necessary to allow for maximum function.

Over-the-counter denture creams and powders work differently for each person. Experiment and find what works best for you.

Follow-up adjustments may be necessary.

Sore spots are generally easily fixed but are not always obvious before you've started to use your partial.

You may feel tenderness on the teeth where the partial clasps onto.

The soreness should only be temporary. If it's persistent, the clasps are too tight and need to be adjusted.

You will salivate a lot initially.

Your mouth will eventually understand that your partial is not food. This will take a few weeks.

Your gums and bone will continue to change.

This makes an initially tight-fitting partial loosen with time. It will need to be relined or eventually replaced. This will vary from patient to patient.

Generally speaking, the lifespan of a partial is 7 – 10 years.

On the back of this handout, you'll have information on proper home care to ensure your partial lasts as long as possible.

**If you need answers beyond what this handout can provide you,
call or text the office at (585) 360-0202.**



Home Care Instructions for **Your New Partial**

Things You Should Do:

- You will need to clean your partial daily.
 - Plaque and tartar will build up, just as they do on teeth.
 - Denture cleanser tablets in warm water can help loosen plaque and tartar on the partial.
 - Clean your partial with a toothbrush and soap once daily.
- Rinse your mouth and partial after meals.
- Keep your partial away from pets! Dogs love to chew on these!
- Contact us if the partial hurts when being worn, or if it is uncomfortable.
- Bring your partial with you to any appointment at our office.

Things You Shouldn't Do:

- Don't make adjustments or repairs yourself. Irreversible changes may cause the partial to be unusable.
- Don't use boiling water, a microwave, or a dishwasher to clean it.
- Don't use toothpaste or baking soda to clean your partial.
- Don't use bleach for cleaning. It will corrode the clasp.
- Don't wear your partial at night. Your gums need to breathe. Fungal infections are commonly seen in patients that wear their partial at night.
- Don't let your partial dry out. When not in use, keep it in your partial case with enough water to soak it.

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