



Tom Laster, DDS

What to expect after a temporary has been placed

Purpose

The temporary is meant to stop sensitivity in the tooth, stop food from gathering around the tooth, and to make sure the tooth doesn't move before the final restoration is placed.

Soreness/Sensitivity

There may be some soreness or sensitivity around the tooth that was prepared when the anesthesia wears off. These should disappear in a day or two, but if you are experiencing pain, please call our office immediately to make an appointment for an adjustment.

Flossing

If you need to floss around the temporary, pull the floss between the teeth, in the usual fashion, but then slide it out to the side of the teeth. You should never pull floss back out from around a temporary as this may cause it to become dislodged.

Brushing

You should be able to brush around the temporary just like a normal tooth.

Roughness

Some roughness to your temporary is very normal. If you are unable to get used to the texture, please call our office to make an appointment for an adjustment.

If your temporary comes off

If you can, immediately place the temporary back onto the tooth and call our office for an appointment. For emergency cases, most drug stores will sell a temporary cement that is made of zinc oxide and eugenol. Following the instructions, a thin coating on the inside of the temporary will usually suffice until an appointment can be made with our office.

Why a lost temporary is bad

When a temporary is lost the tooth has a strong tendency to move. If a tooth moves too much, then the permanent restoration will not fit into place and new one will have to be made.