

Dental Bridges

Replacing missing teeth to restore function and confidence



A dental bridge is a fixed restoration used to replace one or more missing teeth. As the name suggests, a bridge fills the gap by securing an artificial tooth (or teeth) to the neighbouring natural teeth or dental implants.

Bridges are custom-made to restore appearance, chewing function, and stability, helping prevent neighbouring teeth from drifting out of position.



hermitage dental practice

· DENTAL HEALTH FOR ALL, FOR LIFE ·

When might a Bridge be recommended?

A bridge may be suitable if you:

- Have one or more missing teeth
- Want a fixed alternative to a removable denture
- Have healthy teeth on either side of the gap
- Are not suitable for, or do not wish to have, dental implants

A full assessment is required to confirm suitability.

Types of Bridges available

We offer both porcelain and composite bridges, allowing treatment to be tailored to your clinical needs, preferences, and timescales.

Porcelain Bridges

Porcelain bridges are custom-made in a dental laboratory. They offer excellent aesthetics with a natural appearance, they are particularly strong and durable, and are suitable for both front and back teeth.

Composite Bridges

Composite bridges are designed and printed in-house using advanced digital technology. They are printed on-site and we can offer a faster turnaround in suitable cases.

This is a more conservative option preserving natural tooth structure and is a more cost-effective alternative to laboratory-made bridges. They can be repaired or adjusted if required.

Your dentist will advise whether a porcelain or composite bridge is suitable for you.

Benefits of Dental Bridges

- Restore appearance and smile confidence
- Improve chewing and speech
- Prevent neighbouring teeth from shifting
- Fixed in place – no removal required
- Custom-made for comfort and function

Your Bridge Treatment Journey

1. Consultation & Assessment

Your dentist will examine your teeth, gums, and bite, and discuss whether a bridge is the best solution for replacing your missing tooth or teeth.

2. Treatment Planning

A personalised treatment plan is created, including the type of bridge recommended, expected timescales, and costs.

3. Tooth Preparation

If supporting teeth are used, they may be gently prepared to support the bridge. Local anaesthetic is used to ensure comfort. A temporary bridge may be provided.

4. Bridge Creation

- **Porcelain bridges:** Digital scans sent to a laboratory.
- **Composite bridges:** Digital scans and in-house printing.

5. Fitting & Review

The bridge is carefully fitted, checked for comfort and bite, and securely bonded into place.

Will the treatment hurt?

To avoid any pain we use local anaesthetic which usually makes treatment comfortable. Any post-treatment sensitivity is typically mild and temporary.

How long do Bridges last?

With good oral hygiene and regular dental visits, **Composite Bridges** may last 5–7 years; **Porcelain Bridges** may last 10–15 years or longer. Longevity depends on oral hygiene, bite forces, and overall dental health.

Aftercare Advice

- Brush twice daily and clean carefully around the bridge.
- Use interdental brushes or floss aids as advised.
- Avoid biting very hard objects. Attend routine dental health reviews.

Risks and Considerations

- Supporting teeth may be more heavily loaded
- Bridges can chip or fracture under excessive force
- Excellent oral hygiene is essential to prevent decay around the bridge

Your dentist will explain any specific risks relevant to your situation.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will my bridge look natural?

Yes. Bridges are carefully colour-matched and shaped to blend with your natural teeth.

Can I eat normally with a bridge?

Yes, once you have adjusted. Your dentist may advise avoiding hard and sticky foods initially.

Can the bridge be removed

No. Bridges cannot typically be removed as they are cemented into place.

Bridges vs Dental Implants

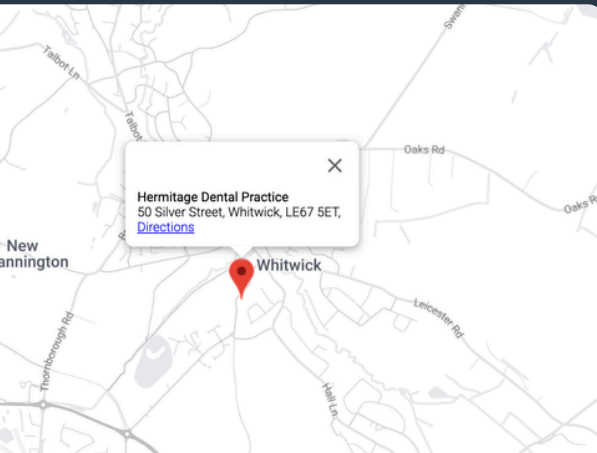
	Bridge	Dental Implant
Fixed?	Yes	Yes
Involves adjacent teeth	Yes	No
Appointments	2	2+
Bone preservation	No	Yes

Why Choose Hermitage Dental Practice?

- We offer a choice of porcelain or composite bridges
- Experienced clinicians providing tailored restorative care
- Conservative approach focused on long-term oral health
- High-quality materials selected for strength and aesthetics
- Clear explanations and supportive care throughout treatment

Your next step

If you are missing one or more teeth, a dental bridge may be an appropriate solution. Contact Hermitage Dental Practice to book a consultation.



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