

BUILD UP

A build-up is the addition of a restorative material to a broken down or decayed tooth before a crown, bridge, inlay, onlay or veneer is placed.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What materials are in a Build-up?

- A Tooth Coloured "composite" filling material
- A silver "amalgam" material

2. What are the benefits to my tooth of a Build-up?

It restores a broken down or decayed tooth to the ideal shape needed to accommodate a crown, bridge, inlay, onlay or veneer.

3. What are the risks to my tooth associated with a Build-up?

- Preparing and placing a build-up can irritate the tooth and cause "post-operative sensitivity" which may last for up to 3 months
- Teeth that have had build-ups may need a root canal treatment about 6% of the time during the lifetime of the tooth
- A build-up may require the placement of "pins" into the tooth to aid in retention increasing the risk of root canal treatment

4. What are my alternatives to having a Build-up?

- Removal of the tooth
- Otherwise no treatment alternatives exist besides a build-up for broken down or decayed teeth requiring a crown, bridge, inlay, onlay or veneer

5. How may my bite affect a Build-up?

- Excessive biting forces or untreated bite problems may lead to the build-up breaking or loosening
- Excessive biting forces or untreated bite problems may lead to the tooth in which the build has been placed, breaking

6. Are there post-treatment restrictions once I have a Build-up?

A build-up may break or loosen if chewing very hard or sticky foods.



Pre Build Up



Post Build Up –
Composite Material



Requires a Build Up



An Amalgam Build Up