

# CROWN CONFUSION?



Here is everything you need to know about crowns - what they are, how much they cost, and how to take care of them.

## What is a crown?

A crown is a dental restoration that, when cemented into place, covers the portion of a tooth that lies above the gum line. Crowns are generally used when you've had a root canal, a damaged tooth, or when a standard filling won't give enough support to the tooth structure.



## What is a crown made out of?

Crowns can be made of several types of materials. These materials are often referred to as base, noble and high noble metals. These metals are sometimes used alone, or porcelain can be applied over to give the crown a more natural appearance. Covering metal crowns with porcelain creates a more organic-looking crown and is typically reserved for your front teeth.

Before you receive your permanent crown, your dentist will put in a temporary crown. This temporary crown will cover a tooth until the permanent crown can be fitted as a complete crown takes a few weeks to create.



## What can a crown cost?

It's important to know that a crown usually requires more than just the "cap". Other procedures may be required, such as a post, or core build up. Often times, when a root canal is needed, that cost should be factored in as well.

Your dentist will provide you with a treatment plan and can explain why each procedure is necessary to restore your tooth. Looking to save money? Make sure you have a dental plan that works for you. Talk to a Solstice team member about your options. 1.877.760.2247

## How to take care of a crown?

Crowns typically last between 5 and 15 years. The life span of a crown is impacted by the amount of "wear and tear" the crown is exposed to, and how well you follow good oral hygiene practices. It is important to avoid grinding or clenching your teeth, chewing ice, biting your finger nails, and using your teeth to open packaging. As with natural teeth, you should continue to follow good oral hygiene practices, including brushing and flossing, particularly around areas where the gum meets the crown.