

Invisalign is a comprehensive orthodontic treatment that allows your dentist or orthodontist to reposition your teeth with clear, almost invisible, plastic aligners.



## HOW DOES INVISALIGN WORK?

The underlying mechanism of orthodontic tooth movement involves changes in the bone surrounding each tooth. We can activate the cells involved in this change by applying pressure.

With traditional metal braces, the wires connect to the fixed brackets and exert a **pulling** force on the teeth.



Aligners differ slightly in that they cover the teeth and exert a **pushing** force.



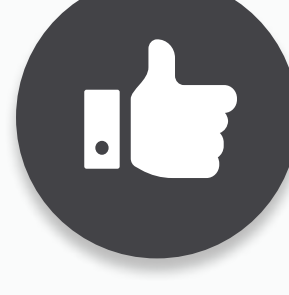
While the method is different, the underlying mechanism of tooth movement is the same. Each aligner places a precise amount of pressure at a specific angle to achieve minor tooth movements in increments of fractions of a millimeter. These minor movements combine over the full series of aligners to achieve the comprehensive repositioning of your teeth, resulting in a beautiful smile!

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF INVISALIGN OVER TRADITIONAL BRACES?



### APPEARANCE

Compared to the metal appearance of traditional brackets and wires, which can imply an undesired youthful appearance, Invisalign allows adults to straighten their teeth discreetly.



### COMFORT

Invisalign offers a noticeable comfort advantage to the sharp metal of traditional braces. Because the aligner is made of a thin layer of plastic material, it won't cause a sensation of fullness under the lips like braces often do.



### CARE & MAINTENANCE

Because you can remove Invisalign aligners to brush, the care and maintenance of your oral health is much simpler. With traditional braces, oral hygiene can be difficult, involving additional tools to help you clean around brackets and under wires.



### SAFETY

Athletes with traditional braces should wear mouthguards in order to protect the inside of their mouths when playing sports. Invisalign acts as protection for the teeth and does not irritate the soft tissue lining the cheeks, lips and tongue.

## HOW WILL MY DAILY LIFE CHANGE WITH INVISALIGN?

Aligners may be virtually invisible, but they require significant involvement on the patient's part. Invisalign is unique in that one of its major advantages, being removable, is also a disadvantage. Because the patient can remove them, you are responsible for much of the success of treatment.



### CONSISTENT WEAR

In order to achieve successful tooth movements, the aligners must remain on the teeth for a minimum of 22 hours per day. This allows time for removal to eat, drink beverages other than water, and clean your teeth properly.



### GOOD HYGIENE

Before placing aligners back onto the teeth after meals, it's important to remove food debris and plaque in order to keep your teeth as healthy as possible. This means more brushing and flossing throughout the day.



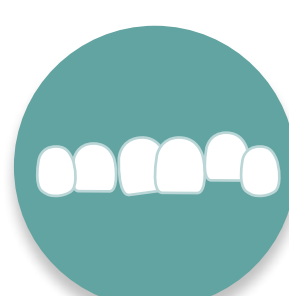
### REGULAR CHECK-UPS

Throughout your Invisalign treatment, you need to see your dentist consistently so he or she can monitor your tooth movement and intercept any potential problems. In most cases, these visits will occur every six weeks, lasting for approximately 15 minutes.

## WHO MAY NOT BE A CANDIDATE FOR INVISALIGN?



A healthy foundation of the supporting bone, ligaments, and periodontal tissues is necessary before considering treatment. People with **active gum disease** are not candidates for Invisalign.



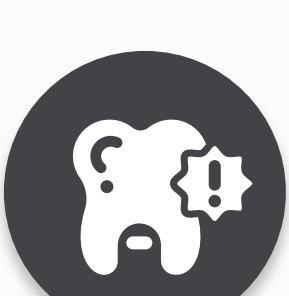
In some cases, Invisalign is not as successful as traditional braces in correcting **misalignment of the upper and lower jaws**. **Cases of severe crowding** may be more successful with traditional braces.



People with large, **untreated cavities** are also not candidates for Invisalign treatment. In general, before moving any teeth, your dentist should confirm you have no active disease or infection in your mouth.

## WHAT'S THE COST?

The cost of comprehensive orthodontic treatment with invisalign versus traditional braces is very similar, running anywhere from \$3,000-\$6,000 depending on the severity of your case.



### BUT BEWARE

Direct-to-consumer brands that allow you to straighten your teeth without seeing your dentist can be very dangerous. We know the cheaper home kits sound tempting, however, the subpar results and risks to your oral health don't justify the potential savings. Damage caused by at-home orthodontics can result in several thousands of dollars in repairs-- far more than a patient would have saved by "skipping the dentist!" It's just not worth the risk.

## BEGIN TODAY

More than just a cosmetic treatment, Invisalign aids in your ability to maintain your oral health by easing your ability to brush and floss, thus decreasing your likelihood of plaque buildup and gum disease. Correcting your bite with Invisalign today, will not just provide you a more beautiful smile, but a healthier, longer-lasting smile.

▶ **WANT TO KNOW MORE? GET IN TOUCH!**  
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