

## What are Dental Sealants?

Dental sealants are a preventive treatment performed on children and adults all over the world.



It's a thin, protective coating applied to the chewing surfaces of our teeth that most commonly get cavities. Sealants adhere to tooth enamel to fill in the deep pits and grooves that catch food – thus helping prevent cavities before they start!



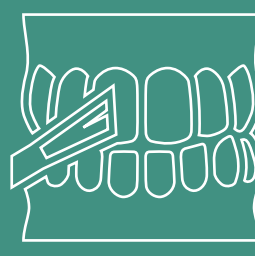
## Sealants Versus Fluoride

Sealants and fluoride treatments both help protect your teeth against cavity-causing bacteria, but they act in different ways.



### SEALANTS

physically block out bacteria and decay from the grooves on the chewing surface of teeth.



### FLUORIDE

is a mineral that re-hardens and strengthens enamel against the acid attacks of those bacteria.

Both sealants and fluoride are essential for great cavity prevention!

## Who Is A Good Candidate?

Anyone can benefit from dental sealants, however some categories of people may receive added benefits from a sealant treatment.

### CHILDREN



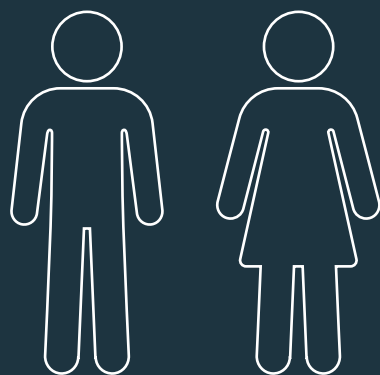
Children's permanent molars begin erupting into their mouths around age six. At this time, many children may still struggle with maintaining a proper brushing and flossing routine. By placing dental sealants on the molars, we can create a surface that is easier for a child to clean.

### SPECIAL NEEDS PATIENT



Patients with mental or physical challenges can also benefit from sealants. Whether a mental challenge makes consistent oral hygiene hard to manage, or a physical challenge makes performing the tasks of brushing and flossing difficult, dental sealants can protect the teeth from cavities on the biting surfaces.

### ADULTS WITH HIGH RISK TEETH



Some people have teeth with naturally deep pits and grooves that are more likely to suffer decay than those with more shallow pits and grooves. Our dental team can help identify these high-risk areas and recommend a sealant to prevent decay.

### NEXT STEPS

Dental sealants are one of the most powerful ways to prevent cavities, and have become an essential part of our dental care. Though they do not last forever, sealants can provide protection to your teeth for many years!