

Consent — Fillings

Restoring a tooth with a filling

This form explains what the treatment involves, the benefits, the risks and the alternatives, so you can make an informed decision. Please read it, ask us anything you are unsure about, and sign at the end if you are happy to go ahead.

What this treatment is

A filling repairs a tooth that has decay, a crack or a worn or broken old filling. We remove the damaged part and replace it with a filling material (tooth-coloured 'composite' or, less often, silver 'amalgam').

Why we may recommend it (the benefit)

A filling restores the tooth's shape and function, helps stop decay spreading, and can relieve sensitivity or discomfort.

Alternatives

Depending on the tooth, alternatives may include a larger restoration such as a crown, root canal treatment, taking the tooth out, or (for very small problems) monitoring it. We will discuss what is suitable for you.

Risks and things that can happen

- **Sensitivity.** The tooth may be sensitive afterwards — mild or strong, short-lived or longer. If it persists, tell us, as it can signal a deeper problem that may need root canal treatment or extraction.
- **Fracture lines.** Preparing or replacing a filling can create tiny cracks in the tooth. These may not show at the time but can appear later.
- **Possible need for root canal treatment.** Removing decay can get close to or expose the nerve. If the nerve does not settle (shown by strong sensitivity or an abscess), root canal treatment or extraction may be needed.
- **Nerve disturbance from the injection.** As with any treatment using local anaesthetic, there is a small risk of temporary or (rarely) lasting numbness or tingling.
- **Appearance.** We try to match tooth-coloured fillings closely, but an exact match is not always possible, and the shade can change over time with food, drink and smoking.
- **Breakage or leakage.** Fillings can chip, come out, or the bond can fail, leading to leakage and further decay.
- **Larger than expected.** If decay extends further than expected, the filling may be bigger than planned. You agree we may extend it as needed for health; if the tooth is then too weak for a filling, an alternative filling, a crown, or extraction may be required.

- **Allergic reaction.** Rarely, metal fillings cause 'lichenoid reactions' (lacy white patches, soreness, ulcers, or a burning/stinging feeling). Tooth-coloured fillings can rarely cause similar reactions.

Notes & customisation

Your consent

My consent. I have read and understood this information. I have had the chance to ask questions and have them answered. I understand what the treatment involves, its benefits and risks, the alternatives, and that I can refuse all or part of it at any time. I understand no guarantees have been made about the result. I agree to go ahead with this treatment, on the basis of this form together with what my dentist discusses and personalises with me on the visit, and the Home Visit Terms & Important Information that apply to all treatments.

Patient (or representative) name	Relationship to patient (if not the patient)
Patient / representative signature	Date
Dentist name	Dentist signature & date

Our **Home Visit Terms & Important Information** (which apply to all treatments) form part of this consent and are provided alongside it.