

Are implants difficult to keep clean?

No. But aftercare is important if you are going to have a long-lasting, successful implant. Your dentist or hygienist will give you detailed advice on how to look after your implants.

Cleaning around the teeth attached to the implants is no more difficult than cleaning natural teeth. However, there may be areas that are difficult to reach and you'll be shown how to clean them. You may need to visit your hygienist more often but your dental team will be able to talk to you about this.

What is it like after having an implant?

The after-effects of having implants placed are usually mild and may include slight bruising, dull aches and swelling, the amount of which will vary dependent upon the number of implants placed and the difficulty of the surgical procedures.

When choosing a date for implant placement, avoid significant social engagements and work commitments for at least a week after. This is just to be on the safe side; taking time off work is not usually necessary. Medication may be prescribed to help with healing and discomfort.

How much do implants cost?

Prices vary depending on the complexity of the implant surgery and this will be worked out on the initial consultation with your dentist. Your dentist will give you a treatment plan, which will explain a breakdown of the costs of each stage of the treatment.

Implant placements carried out at the practice are from £2,450.00 per tooth.



If you are interested in having an implant, please make an appointment to discuss with your dentist or ask at reception for more information.



What are implants?

Implants are titanium screws that are placed in your jaw bone (in place of your missing tooth). Once an implant has been placed and has integrated successfully, a crown or bridge can be fitted to act as your normal tooth. You can also use implants to stabilise dentures and help keep them in place.

Implants are a great way to replace missing teeth. However, they can only be placed if there is enough bone. When we lose teeth, the bone around gradually disappears. This doesn't mean you won't be able to have implants placed, it means you may need to have bone grafting before the placement of the implant screw.

Success of treatment

Success depends on how your body reacts to the implants and your personal care of them. Implants can fail due to gum disease, just as teeth do. If your implants are well looked after, and if the bone they are fitted to is strong and healthy, you can expect them to last for many years. However, just as with other surgical implants (such as a hip replacement) there is no lifetime guarantee.

Success is constantly improving due to improved techniques. Natural teeth last longer today as awareness of the need of looking after them is more accepted.



Do implants hurt?

Placing an implant is often easier than taking a tooth out and is usually done using a simple local anaesthetic. You will not feel any pain at the time but, just like after an extraction, you may feel some discomfort during the week after the surgery.

Speak to your dentist if you are very nervous and worries about the surgery, but are wanting to go ahead with the treatment.

Procedure of the implant surgery

First you undergo surgery to have the implant placed in your jaw, where it is covered over with gum tissue and allowed to integrate into the jawbone for three to six months.

Your dentist attaches a healing abutment to the implant and the gum tissue is allowed to grow up around it. In some cases, the implant and abutment are placed simultaneously. Whether or not they are placed at the same time, the combination implant and healing abutment serves as an anchor for the replacement tooth.

After 3-6 months, your dentist then attaches a customised crown/bridge/denture to the implant post.

How long will treatment take to complete?

You will have an initial appointment with your dentist to assess whether the implant placement is the right option for you and give a rough timetable of how long the procedure will take to complete.

Usually the crown/bridge/denture is placed 3-6 months after the implant surgery is done. This allows time for the bone to intergrate around the new implant.

The fitting of the false tooth can take up to 6 weeks, depending on each case and the replacement option.

Smoking and alcohol

Both smoking and heavy alcohol consumption may reduce the longevity of implants and teeth. If you think that either of these 2 habits could be a problem for you and your implants, it may be advisable to avoid this form of treatment.

Please speak to your dentist to explain the full risks.

What do implants look like?

A dental implant looks like a cylinder or screw and it serves as an artificial replacement for the root of a missing tooth. Implants are made of titanium or other material that won't cause an adverse reaction when they are attached to the jawbone and gum tissue.

The replacement tooth will look like one of your teeth and will be colour matched as part of the process of making your implant crown/bridge/dentures.

