

Your teeth play an important role in your overall health as well as your appearance. So, naturally, you want to do everything you can to keep them healthy and looking good.

Sometimes, however, tooth decay advances to a point where a tooth is too weak to survive with just a direct restoration or filling. Instead, your dentist may recommend an indirect restoration, also known as a crown or bridge. In these cases, the decayed area is removed and the restoration is fitted over the original tooth.

This is a step that can help preserve the health and appearance of your smile.

The evolution of restorations.

Traditionally, crowns and bridges were made of metal, because it is strong and relatively inexpensive.

Then came porcelain fused to metal restorations, which came closer to the look of real teeth and provided strength, durability and fit.

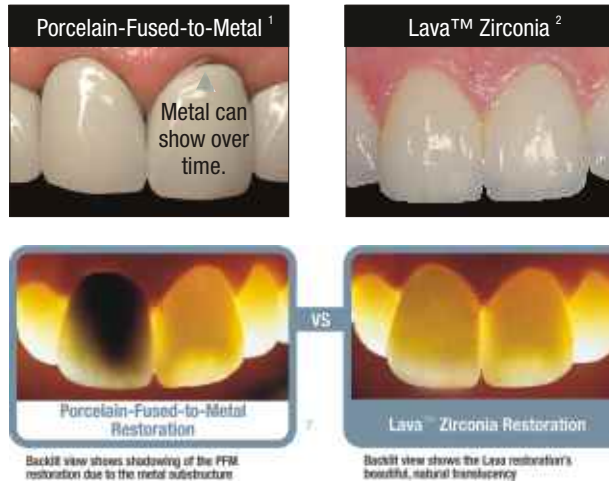
But it is difficult to achieve the translucency of your natural teeth with a restoration that has a metal framework. Light does not pass through the metal restoration like it does through your own teeth, leaving a dull, lifeless appearance.

In addition, over time, the metal framework can leave a dark ridge where the gums recede.

Today, there's a solution as beautiful as nature itself: 3M™ ESPE™ Lava™ Zirconia restorations.

Lava™ Zirconia not only offers strength and longevity benefits of porcelain fused to metal (PFM) but also has tremendous advantages compared to other Zirconia restorations also.

Lava™ Zirconia crowns and bridges can be matched precisely to the color of your own teeth and provide the natural translucency that metal-based restorations and other opaque Zirconia can't.



¹ Photography and case study courtesy of Dr. Heather Rechin
² Photo courtesy of Ariel Raigrodski, DMD, MS

A Lava™ Zirconia restoration consists of two parts;

- 1) The internal framework (Coping)
- 2) The Ceramic Overlay

To make a Lava™ crown or bridge, your dentist will take an impression of your mouth, and send it to a laboratory. There, a technician, will use the impression to create a model of your teeth, and then using computer aided design (CAD) technology will create a digital model. After this ; through computer aided machining (CAM) he will digitally create a precise framework (coping) for your restoration, This coping is then matched to the shade of your tooth through a patented 3M™ process and then a dental technician will build up layers of ceramic onto this framework so that the final restoration will match your natural teeth. The completed restoration will then be delivered to your dentist who will fit it for you.

Precision fit, proven strength and natural aesthetics.

Lava™ Crowns and Bridges from 3M™ ESPE™ has been established as a leading brand in CAD/CAM- produced zirconia restorations through its precise fit, proven strength and natural aesthetics. 3M™ has over 100 years of manufacturing excellence and more than 25 years of zirconia research and processing, 3M™ ESPE™ brings vast expertise in materials science and systems integration to create products that consistently meet the high standard that doctors and labs expect.

Accept No Substitutes

When you are investing in your tooth, you need to rest assured that what you are getting is authentic Lava™ Zirconia material.

Each Lava™ restoration comes with a **5 year warranty** on the complete crown or bridge. This warranty card has an authentication label with a unique barcode. This barcode is matched to every Lava™ restoration made worldwide and linked to an alpha-numeric code. This code can be used on the 3M™ global website to verify that your Lava™ restoration is authentic. So you can rest assured that your authentic Lava™ restoration will stand the test of time.

