



Guide for Dental Assistants

courtesy of Sonrisa Dental Lab



This guide is intended to not only provide a means of easier and more effective communication, but to outline that materials and procedures that we need in order to produce the lifelike, esthetic restoration that your patient desires.

1. Wax Try-Ins
2. Same Day Cases
3. Prescription Forms
4. Miscellaneous Notes

WAX TRY-INS

What to check at try-in if/when Dentist is unavailable

1. With denture(s) inserted, observe the effects of the denture form on the contours of the lips and cheeks.
2. Study the lip for excessive closure or for excessive bulging of the area under the nose due to over-contour of the denture flanges.
3. Direct the patient to slightly open the mouth and study the relation of the maxillary incisors to the lip. Generally, 1 mm of tooth should be visible below the lower border of the relaxed lip.
4. Direct the patient to smile and study the high lip line. A minimum of denture base should be visible.
5. Check the midline. If it is not correct, mark it in the wax portion of the trial denture.
6. Direct the patient to make contact with his/her teeth lightly in centric occlusion. Look for any tilting movement caused by premature contact. If there is premature contact, its cause needs to be isolated with articulating paper. *(If the interference is of great magnitude, the bite must be registered so that we can remount the case and reset the teeth.)*
7. Test for phonetics, especially "S", "F" and "Th" sounds.
8. Report your findings to the lab. If we need to reset teeth because a new bite was taken, we HIGHLY recommend a second try-in to confirm correct placement. ***Applicable charges will apply if changes are made after processing.***

SAME DAY CASES

1. On the following page is a chart of materials and procedures we will need from you before your case is sent to us. If you are unsure of what we will need, and it is not included on this list, please call us before your patient leaves your clinic.
2. Some cases involving broken cast frameworks/broken metal will need to be sent to our metal department in order to have the broken area welded with a laser welder. This will increase turnaround time and cost, making it usually more beneficial to fabricate a brand new framework.
3. Particularly complicated repairs, addition of multiple teeth to denture/partial or cast clasp additions may require more than Same Day Return will allow. We will contact you if such an occurrence arises.

Patient presents with. . .	Explanation	What We Need
Denture/Partial fractured, clean break	The most common reason a denture would break is gum changes. Look to see if the denture/partial is adapted to the tissue, and look for denture adhesive on the tissue side of the denture. It is probable that the denture will need to be relined.	No special materials/procedures necessary. Place disinfected appliance with prescription for repair in case pan, and call us for a pick-up. <i>*Please remove any and all denture adhesive prior to sending case out.*</i>
Tooth/Teeth Broken off Denture/Partial*	Usually caused by eating hard foods or biting heavily. Most commonly seen in anterior teeth. A tooth that is broken off may or may not be intact, and will likely have acrylic bonded to the back of it. .	IF PATIENT HAS TOOTH: No special procedures necessary. IF PATIENT DOES NOT HAVE TOOTH: We will need a pickup impression. Place disinfected appliance with prescription for repair in case pan, and call us for a pick-up.
Tooth/Teeth Popped off Denture/Partial*	Usually caused by a problem with acrylic bonding. A tooth that has popped off will not have acrylic bonded to the back, and it will be fully intact.	See instructions above.
Immediate Tooth or Clasp Placement	As indicated by dentist.	1. Take a pickup impression with partial in patient's mouth prior to extraction(s). 2. Take impression of opposing occlusion, as well as a bite 3. If impression is alginate material, pour model in stone without delay. 4. Call us for a pick-up.
Reline	Relining a denture or partial is often indicated in patients wearing a prosthetic for the first time, after the initial healing period. This should improve the fit of the prosthetic.	Using final impression material/ tissue conditioners is ideal, rather than alginate material. It is sometimes necessary to extend the distal borders of a denture to promote better retention. We recommend placing green stick compound on the distal border prior to taking reline impression.
Solder	When a tooth/clasp needs to be added to an area of a cast partial that doesn't have mesh retention available, it will be necessary to solder a piece of metal onto the framework to provide retention.	No special procedures necessary. <i>**It should be noted that because soldered metal isn't cast with the original framework, we cannot guarantee that the repair/addition will last. It may last for twenty years, but it may not last until the next day. We highly recommend that the patient be advised to use the repaired area for esthetics, rather than function (don't use repaired area for biting down/eating), and that the best option for lasting partial is to have a new frame fabricated.</i>
Rebase <i>***Rebases are NOT available for Same Day Return. We will need a full 24 hours to rebase a denture, and approximately one week to resaddle a cast partial.</i>	Indicated when denture base is old or becomes discolored.	Follow same procedures as relining a denture.

* Sonrisa Dental Lab staff has sole discretion in identifying the cause of tooth fracture.

**We must hear from you before 10:00 a.m. in order to guarantee that your case will be returned in the Same Day. If we do not hear from you before 10:00, or the case is not ready before 10:00, we will schedule delivery on the Next Afternoon.

PRESCRIPTION FORMS

There are several things that need to be included with each case, some of which can delay production when not included.

1. **DOCTOR'S NAME** - We certainly would not want to bill the wrong doctor!
2. **PATIENT NAME** - It is extremely difficult to track your cases in our lab without this piece of identifying information.
3. **RESTORATION** - Boxes are provided for you. Simply check the applicable box.
4. **SHADE** - This is the piece of information that delays production in about 95% of all cases that come through our lab.
5. **RETURN DATE** - If your patient is scheduled for a return appointment, please enter it here WITH the appointment time. If your patient is NOT scheduled, please note this as well. If anything concerning the appointment date and/or time changes during production, please call us to convey this information.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Immediate Cases

*Cast Partial*s

1. We highly recommend that an acrylic treatment partial be made and worn for at least six weeks before models are sent to our metal department to have a cast framework made. This will allow the patient's gums to heal enough to promote a smooth insertion of a metal RPD.
2. If you decide to forego the acrylic treatment partial, we recommend that you advise the patient that relining will be necessary once their gums have healed.

Dentures

1. If possible, take an impression prior to any extractions so that we can set the denture teeth in a manner that mimics the patient's natural dentition.
2. We can provide a wax try-in with denture teeth set around natural dentition in order to verify the correct VDO (vertical dimension of occlusion).

IMPRESSIONS

We cannot emphasize enough how important it is to treat alginate impressions with care. They will produce accurate working models if all necessary precautions are followed to the "T".

Things to check before pouring models

1. Are there voids in critical areas?
2. Is the impression tray showing through?
3. Is there any indication that impression has been allowed to sit for too long (*i.e. impression material pulling away from tray, cracks in impression material*)

Things to Remember

1. Sitting an impression on a workbench, tabletop, etc., will distort the impression.
2. Immersing the impression in water causes the material to expand and distort, making it unusable.
3. Allowing the impression to remain in a dry environment will cause the material to shrink, making it unusable.
4. Alginate impressions should be poured within 15 minutes of their removal from the patient's mouth. If this is not possible, please wrap impression in wet paper towel and place in plastic bag until we arrive to pick up the impression or until there is time to pour the model.