PARK LANE ORTHODONTICS

EMBRACING YOUR FUTURE SMILE

Care of Your Fixed Wire Retainer(s)

Your Orthodontist has fitted a wire retainer which is glued to the back of the upper and/or lower front teeth to help keep them in their new position. These are usually left in place for several years. However, they have a limited lifespan.

To help prolong the life of your retainer(s) you should try to be careful when eating food that may damage the retainers (such as granary bread, hard sweets or anything that needs to be bitten off by your front teeth). Also avoid habits such as chewing pen tops or biting your fingernails!

Each time you clean your teeth brush the back of your teeth around the retainers thoroughly to prevent problems such as gum disease or tooth decay.

If you notice any difference in the feel of the retainer(s) such as sharp edges or a loose piece of glue, this could mean part of the retainer has become unglued. You should phone the practice during normal working hours to arrange an appointment to have the retainer checked and repaired if necessary. Please remember a broken wire retainer will not keep your teeth straight.

In rare circumstances, undesirable movement of the teeth may occur if the wire retainer becomes bent or damaged.

Your retainer(s) will be supervised by us for twelve months. After this time your dentist can check your retainer(s) for you but may refer you back to us if necessary.

If your treatment was carried out under the NHS and you are under the age of 18 there may be a charge for repairs to or replacement of your retainer(s). If you are over the age of 18 or were treated privately you will be charged a fee for this service.

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