Crown or Bridge Keeps Coming Off or Hurting: What to Do Next

Canonical: https://directory.collinsstreetspecialistcentre.com.au/treatment-guides/crown-or-bridge-keeps-coming-off-or-hurting-what-to-do-next/

Description:

Crown or bridge keeps falling off, aches or has a gap at the edge? Common causes, how our prosthodontists assess it and conservative options in Melbourne.

Details:

A crown or bridge that keeps falling off, aches or has a gap at the edge is telling you something, and gluing it back on its own often does not last. Common causes are too little tooth left to hold it, an edge that does not seal, or a bite that overloads it. Each cause needs a different fix, so it is worth a proper assessment.

What problems with crowns and bridges do we see?

- A crown or bridge that keeps coming off
- Decay at the edge of a crown or underneath it
- Pain, sensitivity or a gum abscess
- A crown that chips, cracks or breaks
- A gap at the edge that catches food
- Red or bleeding gums around the crown
- A crown that looks too big, too dark or does not match your other teeth

Sometimes a failing crown is a sign of trouble in the tooth underneath.

Why do crowns and bridges fail?

- Not enough natural tooth left to hold the crown
- A margin (the edge where crown meets tooth) that does not seal, letting decay in
- A bite that puts too much force on the crown, or grinding and clenching
- A bridge spanning a gap that is too long for the teeth supporting it
- A problem with the nerve or root, or a cracked tooth
- A material that does not suit the forces in that part of the mouth

How do we assess a failed crown or bridge?

The first visit is a complimentary review in which general dentist Dr Kia Pajouhesh, our practice principal, looks at the crown or bridge and listens to how it has behaved. We do not charge for it, booking anything afterwards is entirely up to you, and the offer stays open with no end date; any specialist assessment or x-rays you then go ahead with are charged, and we explain the fees before you book. From there we:

- examine the crown or bridge, the gum around it and your bite

- take x-rays to look for decay, root problems and bone levels
- arrange a prosthodontic assessment of whether the tooth can be restored predictably

What could treatment involve?

- Re-cementing the crown, where the tooth and the fit are sound
- Replacing it with a crown that seals and fits
- Treating decay or a root problem before a new crown is made
- Adjusting the bite or making a night guard
- Where the tooth cannot be kept, talking through an implant, a bridge or a partial denture

Who may be involved?

Prosthodontists Prof Vasileios Chronopoulos, Dr Fotios Angelis and Dr Jamie Foong, each with specialist registration in prosthodontics, and endodontist Dr Aovana Timmerman, with specialist registration in endodontics, where the root or nerve is involved. Check any registration on the AHPRA register.

Frequently asked questions

My crown keeps falling off. Can it just be stuck back on?

Sometimes. But a crown that keeps coming off usually has a reason behind it, such as too little tooth to hold it or a bite problem. If it is re-cemented without dealing with the cause, it often comes off again.

Should a crowned tooth keep hurting?

No. Ongoing pain is not normal and should be checked. It may come from the nerve, the bite or a crack in the tooth.

Results, recovery times and risks vary for each individual.

Book a crown or bridge review

Phone us on (03) 9650 2726 or email theteam@collinsstreetspecialistcentre.com.au and ask for a complimentary review of your crown or bridge.

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