

Guide to Fabricating Overdentures on Implants

1. Surgeon places dental implants. Check to see if surgeon is expecting the restorative office to have a surgical guide made for them or if they make their own. Surgical stents are made to help the surgeon guide implants into ideal placement. They are not needed in every situation.
2. After implants are placed patient will need soft liner changed out in their denture approximately every two weeks by restorative office or surgical office in order to keep pressure off the healing implants. It is very important to change the soft liner out in a timely manner.
3. Patient goes to surgeon to have implants uncovered or evaluated to be sure healing process was a success and patient is ready to proceed with restorative impressions.
4. Patient goes to restorative office to have final impressions taken. We suggest taking a fixture level impression of the implants. Be sure to capture all proper landmarks in this impression just as would be required for making a regular denture. We will use the same model of the implant fixtures all the way through from start to finish for both the bite blocks, set-up, denture process and any bar or implant attachment fabrication. **Taking an accurate impression at this step is critical.** Be sure you have proper wrenches to remove healing abutments and seat impression copings/guide pins. Feel free to call us on assistance on ordering parts.
5. Lab processes model work and makes bite blocks to send to Doctor to do regular bite block try-in to verify midline, occlusal plane, lip line, canine position, etc.
6. Lab receives bite blocks back and sets teeth for tooth try-in. Doctor tries in teeth to verify set-up is in proper position. Allow for two try-in appointments in case set-up needs to be reworked or changed.
7. When tooth position is verified implant components are picked to fabricate either a bar and clip type overdenture, or an overdenture that will attach directly to the implants by separate ball attachments, locator attachments or era components where the implants are not connected together. The patient's vertical height, number of implants, implant location and patient expectations will determine what parts will be used to provide the patient with the best overdenture for their situation.
8. If a bar overdenture is fabricated then the bar will need to be tried in for a bar try-in to verify fit on implant fixtures. Be sure you have proper wrenches available to remove healing caps and seat abutments for try-in. This could be two appointments if bar needs to be sectioned and re-tried in. When bar is verified for fit, then the denture is final processed and everything seated to place.
9. If direct to fixture components are used (locators, ball attachments, etc), then parts are selected, denture will be final processed and all parts and denture will be sent to Doctor's office for final seating in patient's mouth.
10. In either a bar overdenture, or a direct to fixture component situation you will need to be sure to have all proper torque wrench's or seating tools to put abutments or attachments in place at the final seating appointment.