

Information sheet for Bonded Retainers

What are Bonded Retainers?

- When fixed braces are removed, the teeth can quickly move back into their previous crooked positions (**relapse**), if they are not held using retainers.



End result after orthodontic treatment.



Relapse after orthodontic retainers were not worn.

- As adults get older, our jaws do continue to change, and our teeth become more crooked as part of the natural ageing process. This natural change can of course still occur following brace treatment. Therefore, long-term retainers are recommended to keep your smile perfect. If retainers are not worn at all, then the teeth will move over time.
- There are two types of retainers available at our orthodontic practice:
 - *Removable clear plastic retainers* – one set is included with all treatment.
 - **Bonded retainers (optional, additional fees usually apply)**
- Bonded retainers** consist of a thin precise wire which is glued to the back surfaces of your six front teeth so it cannot be seen. The wire can be applied to either the upper or lower arch, or both. Bonded retainers are recommended as they ensure the front teeth stay in place once active treatment is complete, even if you forget to wear your removable retainer!
- Bonded retainers** need extra cleaning with a special type of floss called 'Superfloss' to ensure that debris can be removed from between the teeth.



P.T.O

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So what are the costs?

Once the bonded retainers have been fitted they can stay on for many years, and often there is no reason to remove them if they are kept hygienic. Your investment to ensure that your smile stays perfect is £250.00 per arch - inc. a new replacement removable retainer. Bonded retainers need to be replaced over the years.
**(£500.00 per set Upper & Lower)

When can I have bonded retainers?

We like to give our patients the choice.

- **Private patients** Can choose to have it near the end of their treatment. At the last brace adjustment appointment (before the brace is removed) – **we will take impressions & the invoice will be due for the bonded retainers.**
- **NHS patients** must fully finish their orthodontic treatment with us and have their removable retainers fitted before they can apply for the bonded retainer (understanding that separate costs will be involved). ****Invoice due at impressions appointment**

****Once NHS patients have a bonded retainer fitted, they are discharged as an NHS patient****

Bonded retainers hold the front six teeth in position. If you wish to keep your teeth straight, we **highly recommend that you wear both your bonded & removable retainers together** (double retention) as instructed.

REMEMBER: Please call the practice as soon as possible if you think there is a problem with any of your retainers as your teeth may move.

*****Retainers will eventually wear & tear & need replacing.
All further retainers are supplied at an additional cost to the patient*****

YOUR ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO THE FOLLOWING

The attached dental appliance is a "CUSTOM-MADE DEVICE". Skill-Tech Dental Studio has manufactured this dental appliance to satisfy the attributes, characteristics, properties, and features, specified on the dental appliance prescription – by the prescribing clinician – for the named patient. This dental appliance is intended for **exclusive use by this patient and conforms to the relevant essential requirements** in Annex 1 of the Council Directive 93/42/EEC 14th June 1993 Concerning Medical Devices, enacted in the United Kingdom by the Medical Devices Regulations SI 1994 No 3017.