

Correct techniques & materials create the ideal fit.

With so many choices of impression materials on the market and so many various techniques, it's no wonder that inaccurate impressions are still a major cause of remakes. Following successful protocols and utilizing the correct material can make life much easier for the dentist, the patient and the dental technician, resulting in optimal fitting restorations.

Denture Impressions

For full denture impressions, always remember to border mold the tray. This will ensure capturing all the anatomical landmarks needed for a great fitting full denture.

Crown, Bridge or Implant Impressions

Utilizing the correct impression material is essential for crown and bridge and implant impressions. Two ideal choices are Polyether and Vinyl Polysiloxane (VPS).

- Polyether enables excellent dental reproduction in a wet environment. It displaces moisture right from the start for void-free impressions.
- VPS materials are widely used by dental professionals. The material is intrinsically hydrophobic.



IMPRESSION TAKING TIPS AND TRICKS

- Do not exceed the working time given on the manufacturer's instructions for use.
- Use a tray adhesive for all types of impression trays and apply adhesive on the bottom and on inner sides of the tray.
- Support the tray until impression material is sufficiently set.
- Utilize a quality retraction cord or paste before taking an impression of a preparation. A combination of both can be used.
- When taking an impression of the upper jaw, you can easily find support on the chin or cheek bone of the patient.
- With impressions of the lower jaw, a patient should close his/her mouth as much as possible without biting down on the tray to avoid deformation.
- Try to avoid correcting the position of the tray after insertion.
- Ensure the impression tray is the proper size and the material has excellent elastomeric properties prior to taking the impression.
- Make sure that the impression material has completely set before removal.
- When using dual arch trays, impression materials with low flexibility and high shore hardness are beneficial to stabilize the impression.



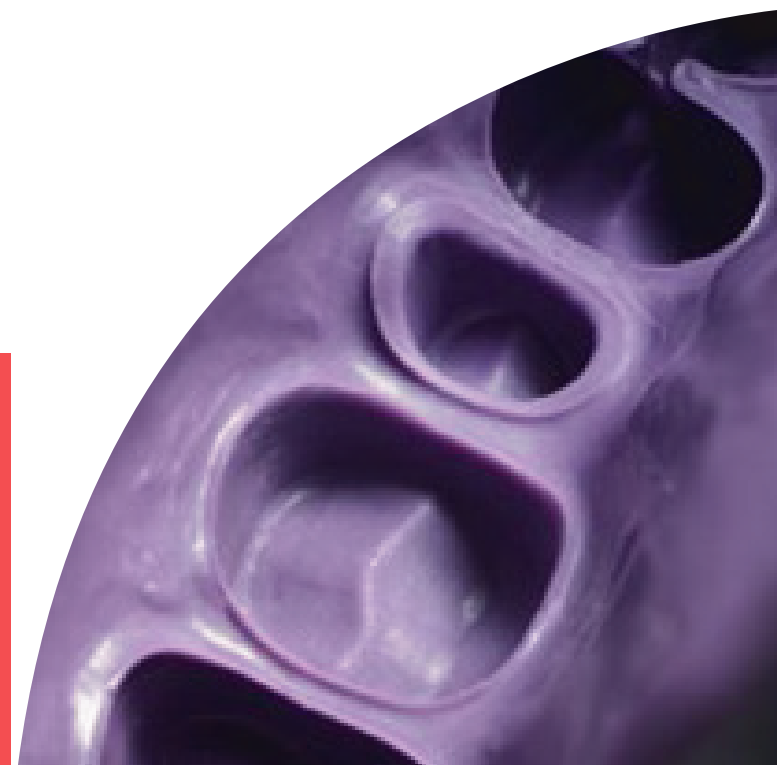
Proven Techniques and Materials for Successful Impressions



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What to Know About Accurate Impression Taking

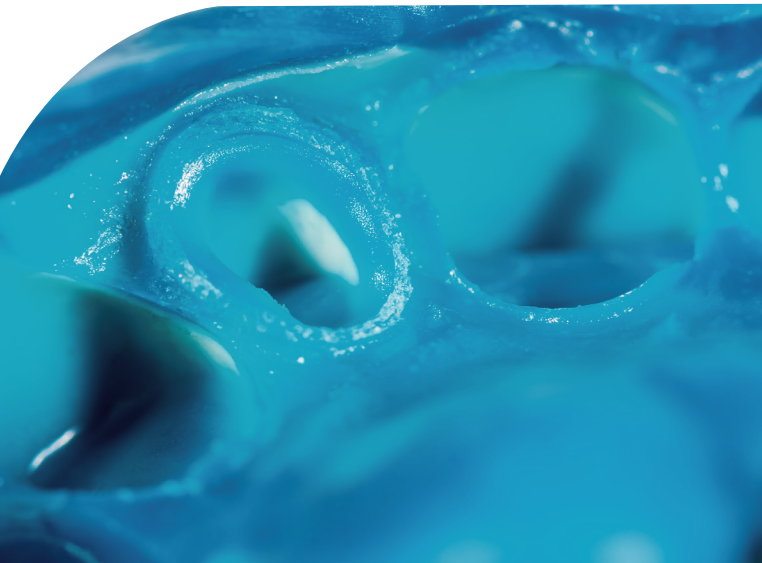
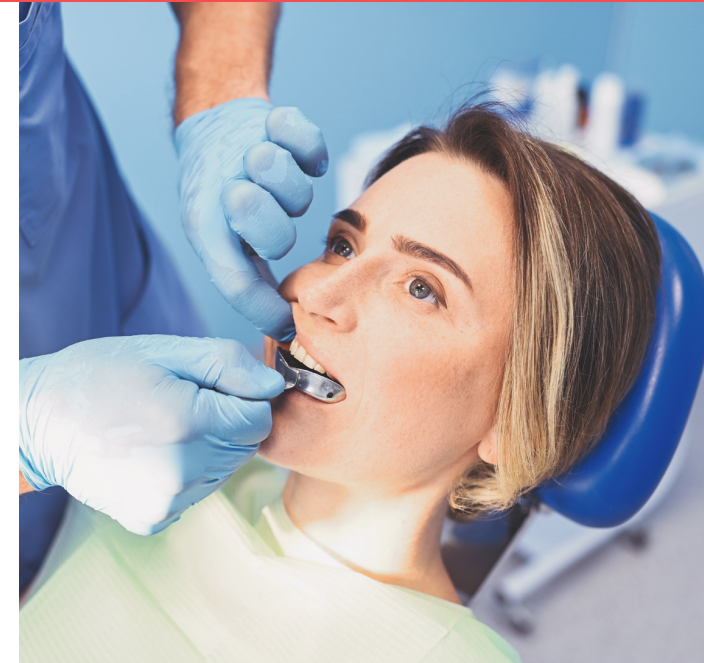
Great impressions help to ensure well-fitting restorations.

When taking an impression, dentists must evaluate what type of impression is needed (whole arch, sectional, multiple or single tooth), which impression tray to use, the method of tissue retraction and the appropriate impression material.

When it comes to evaluating impression material, a number of factors are involved, including setting time, detailed reproduction and dimensional stability. The correct choice of impression materials in combination with the appropriate impression-taking technique are critical to success.

IMPRESSION TAKING WORKFLOW

- Select the best fitting tray, as this can help to ensure clear margins.
- Make sure the lip fits over the anterior edge of the tray.
- Upper Arch - stand behind the patient.
- Lower Arch - stand in front of the patient.
- To capture gingival margins, fully insert the tray into the mouth past the gum line.
- Roll the lip over the tray.
- Line up the tray with the midline or nose of the patient, using the handle of the tray as a guide.
- Remove the impression.
- Inspect the impression before sending to the lab.



A good impression should have a clear facial surface of the teeth/ margins, no voids, no pulls or tray showing through the material.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Retraction - Adequate retraction must be accomplished in all subgingival areas to ensure that the impression material will flow under the margin. A quality retraction cord or paste must be used.

Preliminary Impressions - Utilize a quality alginate material in a slightly oversized tray. Make sure to capture all the anatomical landmarks needed. A good preliminary impression leads to an accurate final impression.

Full Arch Impressions - Full arch impressions should be taken with rigid impression trays. Trays should not flex. Flexing can be the cause of an inaccurate impression.

Dual Arch Impression - Only one tray is needed for the impression of both arches. The bite is registered simultaneously in the impression. When using a dual arch impression tray, make sure the patient does not bite onto the tray support. Utilize a light body material in combination with a heavy body material in the prep

area and heavy body material on the other side of the tray for the opposing dentition and bite.

Edentulous Impressions - Place adhesive on the tray borders and border mold the impression tray. Take an impression of the borders using a heavy body material. Remove the tray and then place adhesive inside the tray and use a medium or light body material capturing all necessary information needed for a well fitting denture, including Hamula Notches, Retromolar Pads and Borders.

Implant Impressions - Choose a custom, full arch or quadrant impression and take a separate bite registration for best results. Use a heavy body material in the impression tray and a light body material around the impression coping to eliminate any voids. **IMPORTANT:** The open-tray technique is necessary when implants are not parallel and the path of insertion is divergent.