

speech

In the first few days your speech may be altered and you may produce extra saliva. This will reduce with time and practice, reading out loud for 5 to 10 minutes a day will help you get your speech back to normal again.

Try and read this pamphlet out loud to yourself!

cleaning

Your retainer should be cleaned every day with a soft toothbrush and cold running water (not hot water). The best time to clean your retainer is when you brush your teeth, as you will be near a sink and the retainer needs to be removed anyway.

As you will be wearing your retainer every night, rinse your retainer under running water in the morning.

Cleaning tablets such as Sterident or Retainer Brite may also be used occasionally if the retainer develops an odor over time.



what you get today

- A retainer case. A safe place to keep your retainers when they're not in your mouth or being cleaned.

- A sample of Retainer Brite. This is for you to use once every few months. Place tablet and retainers in a glass of water for 15 minutes and then brush with your clean toothbrush to give it a thorough clean. You can purchase more from our reception desk.

important

Please remember that not wearing your retainers will mean your teeth could relapse to their original positions.

If you lose or break your retainers or if it's not fitting as well as it used to, make an appointment to see us as soon as possible. There will be a fee to replace a lost or broken retainer.

Always use cold or luke-warm water to clean your retainers. Boiling or very hot water will melt and distort the plastic which will affect the fit.

Keep your retainers safe from family pets especially dogs as they can smell the saliva on them and will chew them up! It is quite a common mishap.

Please bring your retainer/s with you to every appointment.

instructions for retainers



maroubra
822 anzac parade maroubra nsw 2035
t 02 9344 7081

kincumber
84 avoca drive kincumber nsw 2251
t 02 4369 2209

info@theorthopractice.com.au
www.theorthopractice.com.au

what does a retainer do?

A retainer is made of clear plastic that helps hold your teeth in place once orthodontic treatment has been completed. It is a direct copy of what the teeth look like after the braces come off.

wearing your retainer

When wearing your retainer, it should fit like a glove over your teeth. There should be no excess plastic sitting on your gums.

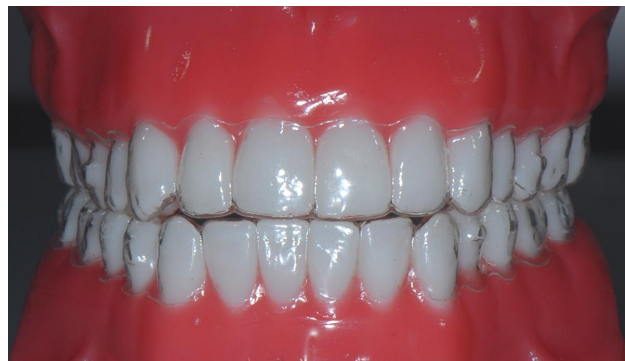


- 1** Begin by looking in the mirror and positioning the retainer so that your teeth are correctly lined up with the shape of the retainer.



- 2** Push up with your thumbs for the top. Push down with your fingers to place the lower one. They may make a clicking noise to signify they are in place.

Note: do not bite the retainer into place, this will weaken it and it will break.



- 3** The retainer should feel tight at first and will then settle.

fitting

When fitting your retainer, always make sure you look into a mirror so that you can correctly position the retainer. Once your retainer is in the correct position, simply use your fingers to push against the plastic and the retainer will click into place.

removal

When removing your retainer, always use your index fingernails to pull downwards on the back of the retainer. The easiest spot to place your finger is on the inside of your teeth. Ensure that you always remove from the back of the retainer, this will make your retainer last longer. If you remove from the front you run the risk of putting too much pressure on the retainer and your teeth.

wear

You will wear your retainer every night until otherwise instructed by your orthodontist or hygienist. A minimum of 8 hours wear is imperative. If you miss a night, or wear them for less than 8 hours, it is important to make that missed time up as soon as you can. If not worn for the 8 hours, teeth can move and another course of treatment could become necessary.