

Hall Technique Crowns

What is a Hall crown?

- It is a metal tooth shaped cap which fits snugly over a decayed baby back tooth (molar). It covers the whole tooth.
- The crown is made of safe metals - a nickel-chromium alloy (similar to some jewellery) although often called 'stainless steel'. It is easy to clean.
- A Hall crown, when placed on an appropriate tooth, will last longer and have a better success rate than a filling.
- The crown falls out naturally with the baby tooth at about age 10-12yrs.



How do Hall crowns work?

The Hall crown technique seals the decay inside the tooth and stops it from growing. If the cavity-causing bacteria inside the tooth cannot get nutrients (sugars) from the mouth, the decay dies away.

The crown also prevents this tooth from getting further decay until it falls out. This means further treatment on this tooth is unlikely – good news for your child.

How is a crown put on?



- It usually only takes a few minutes and no drilling or injection is necessary.
- The correct size of crown for the tooth is found and positioned onto the tooth. Dental cement is spread inside the crown.
- The child helps by biting down on it so that it 'pops over' their tooth.
- It can feel 'pushy' or a bit tight at first. Children usually prefer to have this, in comparison to having a filling done.
- If space is tight, your child may have 'spacers' placed a few days before the crown to make fitting easier. These are tiny elastic bands placed on either side of the tooth to be crowned. They feel like having apple peel stuck between your teeth. They are removed just before the crown is fitted. If spacers are necessary, your child will need 2 visits within 1 week.



We take follow up x-rays of the crowned tooth after 6 months to check the tooth is healing.

What does the crowned tooth feel like afterwards?

To start with, the tooth feels a little 'high' and strange to bite with, but within a few days it will feel normal again. If there is any tightness around the gums, this will pass within half an hour. Please avoid sticky or chewy foods for the first few days while the crown is settling in.

It's really important your child continues brushing their teeth twice a day.

Is a Hall crown suitable for every tooth or child?

There are many reasons a Hall crown may not be the best option for your child or that particular tooth.

Your therapist will be happy to explain and discuss your child's situation with you.

See [en.wikipedia.org Hall Technique](http://en.wikipedia.org/Hall_Technique) for further information

