

# Traditional filling, BioClear restoration or biomimetic crown?

## Comparing your options, side by side

They are not simply three sizes of the same treatment. Each one solves a different structural problem, and the right choice depends on **how much sound tooth remains**, any cracks, and the forces your bite puts on the tooth.



### FOUR OPTIONS, FOUR DIFFERENT JOBS

|                           | 1<br><b>Traditional filling</b><br>Repairs the space | 2<br><b>BioClear restoration</b><br>Rebuilds and supports more of the tooth | 3<br><b>Biomimetic crown</b><br>Broader protection when the foundation is not enough | 4<br><b>Conventional crown</b><br>Full coverage, still the safest choice for some teeth                  |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Main aim</b>           | Replace a localised area of damage                   | Conservatively rebuild and support the remaining tooth                      | Protect a tooth that needs broader coverage                                          | Cover and protect the whole tooth above the gum                                                          |
| <b>How it is made</b>     | Directly in the tooth                                | Directly, usually in one visit, with a matrix-guided bonded workflow        | Made outside the mouth, then bonded to the tooth                                     | Made outside the mouth, then fitted over the prepared tooth                                              |
| <b>Tooth coverage</b>     | Usually stays within the cavity                      | May extend around cusps, walls or edges where protection is needed          | Covers a planned portion, or most, of the tooth                                      | All of the tooth above the gum                                                                           |
| <b>Best suited to</b>     | A smaller defect with strong surrounding tooth       | A damaged or heavily restored tooth with enough sound foundation to bond to | Too little foundation or height, extensive loss, severe cracks or a demanding bite   | Very little sound tooth left, a tooth not well suited to bonding, or a bite that calls for full coverage |
| <b>Tooth preservation</b> | Usually conservative for a small cavity              | Designed to keep sound tooth and avoid unnecessary crown preparation        | More preparation than a direct rebuild, but still designed conservatively            | The most preparation: the tooth is shaped down on all sides                                              |
| <b>Future repair</b>      | Often repairable                                     | Often maintainable or repairable, depending on the problem                  | Depends on the restoration and how it fails                                          | Depends on the crown and how it fails                                                                    |

#### THE KEY IDEA

A traditional filling repairs the space; a BioClear restoration rebuilds and supports more of the tooth; a biomimetic crown provides broader protection when the remaining foundation is not enough.

## — FILLING THE SPACE, OR SUPPORTING THE TOOTH?

### A traditional filling

Often exactly right for a limited defect. The material is bonded into the cavity and shaped to replace what is missing.

Its limit: it usually does not deliberately extend around cusps or walls, so it may give limited bracing to a tooth that is already undermined, cracked or heavily restored.

### A BioClear restoration

Designed as a complete bonded system: careful isolation, smooth rounded preparation, anatomical matrices and controlled injection moulding help the resin closely adapt to the tooth.

“Shrink-wrapping” is only an analogy. All resin shrinks slightly as it sets, and the whole bonded design aims to manage that stress.

### A biomimetic crown

Used when a direct rebuild would not give enough support: too little height or foundation, very broad loss, severe cracks or heavy bite forces.

Still conservative by design: the aim is to keep as much healthy tooth as possible while giving the protection the tooth genuinely needs.

## — HOW WE CHOOSE

### 1 The remaining tooth

How much sound enamel and dentine is left to reliably support bonding?

### 2 Cracks and decay

How deep and extensive is the damage, and do you have any symptoms?

### 3 Isolation and bite

Can the tooth be kept dry during treatment, and what chewing or grinding forces act on it?

### 4 The repair pathway

Which option protects the tooth now while keeping sensible options open for the future?

## — QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO ASK US

- ☐ How much sound tooth is left, and can you show me?
- ☐ Are there any cracks, and how far do they seem to go?
- ☐ Which options suit this tooth, from least to most invasive?
- ☐ Why do you recommend this option for my tooth rather than the others?
- ☐ Does my bite, or any grinding, change what my tooth needs?
- ☐ What future options does this treatment keep open?

### OUR STARTING QUESTION

**“What is the least invasive treatment that will properly protect this tooth?”**

Preserve first. Protect properly. We will show you what we can see, explain every suitable option, and tell you honestly when a crown is the right choice.

General information only. This guide does not replace an examination or personalised advice. Recommendations vary with the condition of each tooth, your symptoms, oral health, bite and individual circumstances. No restoration can guarantee that a cracked or heavily damaged tooth will never need further treatment.