

Sealants

Sealants are only one step in the plan to keep your child cavity-free for a lifetime. Brushing, flossing, controlling diet and regular dental visits are still essential to a healthy smile.

What are sealants?

Sealants protect the surfaces of teeth with grooves and pits, especially the chewing surfaces of back teeth where most cavities form in children are found. Made of shaded plastic, sealants are applied to the teeth to keep them cavity-free. They are easy to place, do not require anesthetic and are very affordable.

How do sealants work?

Even if your child brushes and flosses carefully, it is difficult, sometimes impossible, to clean the tiny grooves and pits of certain teeth. Food and bacteria build up in these depressions, placing your child in danger of tooth decay. Sealants “seal out” food and plaque from these grooves, thus reducing the risk of decay. Plaque accumulates in the tiny grooves and the acid and bacteria found in the plaque, attacks the enamel causing cavities to develop. Sealants cannot be applied to the in-between surfaces of the teeth. Total prevention must still include regular dental visits, use of fluorides, daily brushing, flossing and limiting sweets in the diet.

How long do sealants last?

Sealants can last for many years. They do require maintenance, as they can wear or chip. At each 6 month check-up, we will evaluate the integrity of your child’s sealants. We can easily replace or repair lost or damaged sealants. If your child has good oral hygiene and avoids sticky, sugary foods, sodas and juices, or biting into hard objects, sealants will last longer.

☼ *For our patients who have maintained their regular 6 month check-ups, sealants requiring replacement or touch-up, will be done free of charge*

We have done our best to provide you with the finest quality oral restorations available today. However, only your continuing excellent oral hygiene and professional recalls can ensure optimum service and longevity.

Should you have any concerns about sealants, please do not hesitate to call our office at (815) 725-5991