



FILLING

What is a filling:

A composite (tooth colored) filling is used to repair a tooth that is affected by decay, cracks, fractures, or for use in cosmetic dentistry.

The decayed or affected portion of the tooth will be removed and then filled with the composite filling. These tooth-colored fillings blend in with your surrounding teeth to make it impossible for others to know that you have a filling at all.

Reasons for a filling:

- Restore a tooth that is broken or fractured
- Provide strength to a tooth that is severely damaged
- Enhance the look of a tooth
- All teeth with untreated cavities will eventually need a root canal or to be extracted. The sooner we treat them the better.

Benefits of a filling:

- The restoration of the tooth's original shape and size
- Reduces decay settling on the underlying tooth
- Provides additional strength to a weakened tooth
- Helps prolonging the life of the tooth

How it's done:



Damaged/
infected tooth



Decay is removed



Composite is placed
in the hole where the
decay was removed

POST OP CARE INSTRUCTIONS

What to expect after treatment:

- Once numbness has subsided, you can eat and drink normally.
- For the first few weeks, it is normal to experience pressure or sensitivity to hot and cold.
- The injection site may be sore. You may take an over the counter pain reliever as needed for the first few days. If the pain continues, your nerve may have been affected by the cavity and, in some cases, you may need a root canal.
- If your gums are swollen or sore, rinsing your mouth with warm salt water can help to alleviate discomfort and swelling:
 - Dissolve a 1/2 teaspoon of salt in 8 oz. of warm water
 - Gently swish the water around the tooth and spit
- Floss and brush your tooth as you normally would.
- Any treatment of cavities may injure the nerve of the tooth, making it sensitive and, may leading to a root canal.

Notify our office if:

- You feel that your bite is not correctly balanced
 - If it feels as if the filling is too high
 - If you are hitting the filling first when you bite down
- If you have discomfort or pain that persists from hot or cold

If any of the above occurs, please call the office to schedule a simple adjustment at no charge.

For more detailed information, visit us at: northviewsmiles.com

POST OP NOTES:
