

Post-Operative Instructions for Composite (White) Fillings:

We hope your experience at Happy Smiles Family Dentistry has been a pleasant one! Please read these instructions carefully to help with the healing process and ensure the procedure's success.

After you have just had a new filling, you may feel:

- Hot sensitivity that may last a few days
- Cold sensitivity that may last up to 8 weeks but gradually decreases
- Sensitivity to chewing that may last up to 8 weeks but gradually decreases
- You are not biting correctly after numbness wears off. Please call the office so your bite can be adjusted. You may not feel this for some time if the bite is only slightly high. Remember, it is hard for you to judge if you are biting your teeth correctly when you are numb.

White fillings are hard right away so you can chew on them immediately, but they might be sensitive.

Possible need for root canal treatment:

Any filling, no matter what size or depth, may result in the need for a root canal. The symptoms to look for include:

- Hot sensitivity that lasts longer than a few weeks
- Hot sensitivity that begins after the tooth has been asymptomatic or problem-free for a period of time
- Spontaneous pain that occurs anytime during the day or night
- Swelling, either in the mouth or face
- Cold sensitivity that lingers on for many minutes

Tooth Breakage:

Any time a filling is placed there is less natural tooth left. This means that the tooth is weaker as filling material is not as strong as natural tooth. If your tooth breaks, a new filling may be put in if it's not too large, or we may recommend a crown to protect the remaining tooth.