

## What types of Dental Fillings can I have?



## Choosing the Right Type of Dental Filling

Choosing the right type of dental filling depends on several factors, including the size and location of the cavity, the cost of the filling, and your personal preferences. Your dentist can help you choose the right type of dental filling for your needs.

### Amalgam Fill:

Amalgam fillings are made of a combination of metals including silver, tin, copper, and mercury. They are strong, long-lasting, and relatively inexpensive. However, some people may be concerned about the use of mercury in fillings, even though they are considered safe by the American Dental Association.



### Gold Fillings:

Gold fillings are a durable and long-lasting option for filling cavities. They are made of a gold alloy that is mixed with other metals such as copper and silver. They are a good choice for people who have a history of grinding their teeth or who have large cavities in the back of the mouth.





Amalgam and Composite fillings

### **Composite Fillings:**

Composite fillings made of a tooth-colored resin material that blends in with the surrounding teeth. They are a popular choice for filling cavities in visible areas of the mouth because they are more aesthetically pleasing than amalgam fillings. They are also less likely to cause sensitivity to hot and cold temperatures.



Amalgam and Ceramic fillings

### **Ceramic Fillings:**

Ceramic fillings are made of porcelain materials that are designed to match the natural color of the teeth. They are a good option for filling larger cavities and are more durable than composite fillings. They are also resistant to staining and are a good choice for people who drink coffee, tea, or red wine.



### **Glass Ionomer Cement (GIC) Fillings:**

Glass ionomer fillings are made of a mixture of acrylic and glass materials. They are commonly used to fill cavities in children's teeth because they release fluoride, which can help prevent further decay. They are also a good choice for people with small cavities in non-load bearing areas of the mouth.

### **Conclusion**

Dental fillings are a common dental procedure used to treat cavities and restore damaged teeth. There are several types of dental fillings available, including amalgam, composite, ceramic, gold, and glass ionomer fillings. Each type of dental filling has its own benefits and drawbacks, and choosing the right type depends on several factors. Remember to seek professional dental advice if you have any questions or concerns about dental fillings.