

Five Myths about Porcelain Veneers

The word “veneers” has become a common term in dentistry over that past decade. Some people associate porcelain veneers with Hollywood movie stars while others have friends who have had a “smile makeover.” These cosmetic restorations are used to correct chipped, worn-down, decayed or stained teeth and are able to correct undesirable spaces or alignment of teeth. Unfortunately, most people do not realize what is involved when porcelain veneers are performed or even some of the real reasons of why they are used in dentistry. There are also several misconceptions that dentists have heard concerning this procedure that may be preventing people from pursuing the smile of their dreams. Hopefully, this month will dispel these myths and help educate you on some of the truths of why porcelain veneers can be an excellent way to restore or improve a smile.

•Veneers look “fake” and are too white to look natu-



Cindy ~ before



Cindy ~ after

ral. This is one of the most common comments I hear from people who are unfamiliar with modern cosmetic

dentistry. Older versions of veneers were thick and opaque, almost having the “chicklet” look. If you can tell that a person has veneers in their mouth, it is because they have older-style dentistry, possibly with metal underneath (have you ever seen that black line along someone’s gumline?). Today’s materials are all-porcelain and so natural-looking that we can make them blend with your surrounding teeth, making them seamless with your smile. We custom stain these restorations so that they have depth, translucency, and characteristics that natural teeth possess. I always recommend going to a dentist’s website to view their smile gallery so that you can see how natural porcelain veneers can be.

•You have to have your whole tooth cut down to have veneers. This could not be further from the truth. It is necessary for your teeth to undergo some reshaping; after all, you don’t want your new porcelain veneers

to look too bulky simply for the sake of preserving tooth structure. However, this usually entails only .5-1mm of enamel on the front of your tooth continuing slightly onto the tongue side. In fact, this is a much more conservative treatment option than a full crown or cap. So in reality, veneers are an excellent choice for us to improve the shape and color of your teeth while being significantly conservative.

•They are painful and cause sensitivity. The procedure itself is completely painless with local anesthetic. Over-the-counter medications are sometimes necessary for mild tenderness following the procedure. The only instance, although rare, in which you may experience some slight sensitivity is when you’re wearing your temporary veneers in the interim before your permanent ones are finished. Once



Dentally Speaking

by Jeffrey S. Haddad D.D.S.

your new porcelain veneers have been placed, this sensation will be completely eliminated.

•They’re Too Expensive. While this may sadly be true for some patients, many dental practices can offer payment

plans or alternative financial options that may reduce your monetary obligations down to a couple hundred dollars a month. Carecredit is a great healthcare finance group that many of our patients utilize in our office. Be sure to talk to your dentist about porcelain veneers! Who knows – your dream smile may not be as far out of your reach as you think.

•Veneers are ONLY used for cosmetic reasons. I believe this is the most misunderstood fact about porcelain veneers.

Continued on page 15



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COLUMN

Doolin & Haddad *Continued from page 12*

The majority of porcelain veneers that are performed are for functional reasons and restore a person's teeth to the proper form and health. Many people are severe grinders and clenchers which has resulted in 30-50% of their original tooth structure being lost. In addition, this loss of height in their teeth can lead to severe TMJ problems including headaches, jaw pain, and migraines. Porcelain veneers are not just used for "vanity" reasons; they allow dentists the proper technique to restore a person's teeth to healthy functioning. Porcelain veneers have become very popular in today's society due to the advances



Cindy ~ before



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in dental technology and people's overall desire for health and beauty. Unfortunately, most people do not realize that this procedure could be what they need to properly address some of

their dental concerns. Hopefully, I have alleviated some of the fears and misnomers concerning porcelain veneers and shown that they are a very good option for many people to consider.

Jeffrey S. Haddad, DDS of Rochester Advanced Dentistry, completed his dental education at the University of Michigan in 2001. Dr. Haddad is a fellow of the prestigious Las Vegas Institute for Advanced Dental Studies.

He lectures nationally on cosmetic dentistry, TMJ and sleep disorders and dental implants. For more information, visit www.rochesteradvanceddentistry.com.

Rochester Community Chorus announces Fall/Winter 2024 Season

The Rochester Community Chorus (RCC) welcomes new singers from Rochester and surrounding communities to join its fall/winter 2024 season. Rehearsals for the Rochester Community Chorus are held on Monday evenings at 7:45 p.m., starting September 9 in the sanctuary of St. Mary of the Hills church.

RDD's performance schedule will begin with a major presentation of Lux: The Dawn From on High by Dan Forrest, with small chamber orchestra, on Sunday, November 17 at 4 p.m. at St. Mary of the Hills Catholic Church, Rochester Hills. The Chorus will join the Rochester Community Concert Band and the Choral Union of Rochester

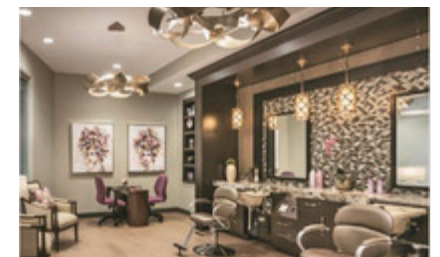


Christian University for a Christmas concert on December 3 at Avondale High School, Auburn Hills, at 7:30 p.m. The Chorus will present two musical compositions at the annual Rochester community Christmas concert held at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Rochester, on December 8, 2024.

The RCC is open to all who enjoy singing at any skill level. Approximately 40 singers currently make up the Chorus, which performs requiems, masses, pops concerts, show tunes, and multicultural music.



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