

All About the MAXILLARY HAWLEY APPLIANCE (Upper Removable Retainer)

Description:

A Maxillary Hawley Appliance is a removable appliance most often comprised of stainless steel clips (clasps) on the posterior teeth, a wire (labial bow) across the front teeth, and a polished acrylic framework along the inside of the roof of the mouth (palate), reinforced with stainless steel wires.

Usage: The Maxillary Hawley Appliance is used to maintain a previous orthodontic result or to simply prevent undesirable movement of the teeth. Retention appliances are typically worn full-time for one year following orthodontic therapy to allow for remodeling of the bones and gums and then nightly thereafter to maintain the orthodontic correction.

Cleaning: We encourage patients to clean the appliance with toothpaste and a toothbrush. If the appliance needs a deeper cleaning, anti-bacterial soap and warm water can often help, followed by a cleaning with toothpaste. Mouthwash should NOT be used and hot water should also be avoided to prevent distortion of the acrylic.

What to Expect: Upon initial placement, there may be some tongue obstruction, but your speech will be back to normal in just a few days.

Dr. Bronsky's Tip: Read your favorite book, magazine, etc. to yourself in front of the mirror for five minutes a day – your speech will be perfect in no time.

Remember: Retention is as important as the treatment itself and is essential to the long-term maintenance of your new bite and smile.



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