

SMILE Makeover

DENTAL AND IMPLANT SURGEON
DR JEAN PAUL DEMAJO ON THE
IMPORTANCE AND BENEFITS
OF SEEKING THE NECESSARY
DENTAL TREATMENT TO BOOST
YOUR SMILE AND CONFIDENCE

Often, people wonder whether they should fix their teeth. This thought first occurs in the morning whilst brushing their teeth and continues throughout the day. Conscious of their smile at work or out socially, they mumble their words or cover their mouths to laugh or talk, all because they do not want to show their teeth. Most of them have been thinking about fixing their teeth for months, or even years, and a lack of confidence affects their personality and day-to-day life.

Reasons for not fixing one's teeth:

- Afraid of dental treatment
- Cost of treatment
- Lack of time
- Unsure of what the result will look like


BUT WHAT DO PATIENTS DISLIKE ABOUT THEIR TEETH?

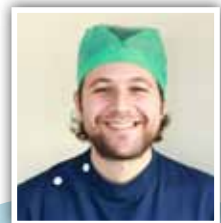
- Different colours – some teeth look darker than others, some have black stains due to old fillings and others with old bridges have metal showing along the gum line.
- Different shapes – some teeth are or appear longer than others and some look crooked.
- Missing teeth – spaces in between teeth or different sized teeth give an asymmetrical appearance that jars with the rest of the teeth.
- Mobile teeth – old sets of dentures replacing single or multiple missing teeth which would have been tolerated to the best of their ability but still feeling uncomfortable and highly unsatisfactory.
- Painful teeth – some teeth may be mobile or infected giving daily discomfort when eating, drinking or even at rest.
- Facial appearance – missing teeth, incorrectly inclined teeth, as well as worn down teeth give the appearance of facial creases. Overly closed jaws also cause them to look older or do not allow them to chew properly.



Picture 1 shows many of the above features: different coloured teeth, visible metal, old looking bridges, incorrectly proportioned teeth and behind all of this an unhappy person wishing for a change. So how does a dentist tackle this? Firstly, a long discussion during consultation is an absolute must. The dentist needs to know exactly what the person wishes to achieve. All detail must be collected and recorded. The dentist will then propose a treatment plan. The treatment plan includes options for treatment, times of treatment, cost of treatment, advantages and disadvantages of the different treatment options and mock-up visuals including study models and digital mouth reconstruction demos of the final look of the proposed teeth.



Picture 2 shows the same patient having undergone a full-mouth rehabilitation. Note the uniformity, the symmetry and the overall new look. The success of the treatment is entirely dependant on ticking all the boxes on the patient's list. Obviously, time and patience are a must on both the dentists' and patients' sides. Together, the results speak for themselves. Just ask your dentist. 



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