

Immediate Dentures

When removal of natural teeth is the only acceptable option, you may consider a few alternatives concerning the sequence and timing of tooth removal and their subsequent replacement with artificial dentures.

1. **Removal of all remaining teeth at one time, allowing the mouth to heal completely before placing artificial “remote” dentures.** Most patients do not prefer this alternative because of the period of about eight weeks minimum before dentures can be placed and the lack of any teeth during that time.
2. **Removal of all of the posterior (back) teeth at one time, allowing the mouth to heal for eight weeks,** followed by the removal of the anterior (front teeth) and placement of an “immediate” denture on the same day. This is a good alternative, providing a healing period for the back part of the mouth during which time the front teeth remain with a relatively acceptable appearance. This alternative requires rebasing (refitting) of the artificial dentures about eight weeks after they were placed in the mouth.
3. **Removal of all remaining teeth at one time and placement of immediate dentures on the same day.** This is the most popular alternative because it does not require any time without teeth in the mouth. Depending on the number of teeth removed, this is sometimes a temporary denture. Once the mouth has healed, a permanent denture is constructed.

Various other combinations of the above three concepts can be provided.