

BAILEY FAMILY DENTAL AND BRACES

HELPING PEOPLE THROUGH DENTISTRY

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EXPLANATIONS FOR FAMILIES STARTING ORTHODONTICS

There are many questions that are asked regarding orthodontic treatment. This page is designed to help. If we have not covered your question, please be sure to ask.

TERMINOLOGY

Bands and Brackets: **Brackets** are specially shaped metal squares that are cemented onto the teeth. This is a painless procedure. **Bands** are small rings that fit around the entire tooth and have special brackets attached to them.

Spacers are used to create a space between teeth in order to fit on the bands. They are placed in with floss and may cause slight discomfort that can be remedied with an over-the-counter pain reliever. They take a few minutes to place in, and stay in for one week.

APPOINTMENT POLICIES

All **spacer** placement appointments are done before or after school hours. At this visit we will also be going over the importance and demonstration of good oral hygiene.

The initial appointment to place on bands and brackets can take up to two hours and is scheduled in the morning or just after lunch.

Generally the orthodontic check appointments occur every four weeks and are about 30 minutes long. These appointments will be alternated—one visit during school hours and the next after school hours. This means there will be approximately seven visits during the school year that occur during school hours. We are generally booked 2-6 weeks in advance, so it is helpful to schedule a few appointments at once rather than only the next one.

Appointments for orthodontic records or removals cannot be scheduled after 3 p.m.

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SALTROPINE

Saltropine is a tablet given to patients to slow down saliva flow. The reduction in saliva flow allows for better adhesion of cements to the tooth. This tablet is taken one hour prior to the following appointments:

- Cementing of bands for space maintainers
- Cementing of bands and/or brackets
- Removal of bands and brackets and cementing lower retainer

INSURANCE

We will submit insurance forms for patients. Insurance plans generally have a per patient “lifetime” limit for orthodontic coverage. Please confirm your coverage with your insurance carrier or Benefits Department. Each insurance company, policy, and contract has different coverage. It is your responsibility to know this coverage and to pay for charges not covered by the insurance company.

Initials_____