



# BAILEY FAMILY DENTAL & BRACES

“HELPING PEOPLE THROUGH DENTISTRY”



## Crown Preparation

Have you ever taken your car in to a mechanic for something you thought was going to be a minor fix, just to find out there is a laundry list of problems under the hood? And as the mechanic is telling you what is wrong with the car and what needs to be done to it, you feel like he is speaking a different language? Having been in that situation a time or two, I started to realize that my patients probably feel somewhat the same when they come to see me, only I am the mechanic.

Many people are amazed to find out what is really going on with their teeth. One of the things they are most surprised about is that they need crowns or “caps.”

A crown is essentially a replacement for lost tooth structure. There are many reasons that your dentist may recommend a crown, such as if your tooth has broken, if you have a large filling that is failing, if you have a large cavity that will leave much of the tooth gone after the cavity is removed, or if you have a tooth that needs a root canal. The underlying necessity for a crown is that too much of the tooth is gone or damaged to fix with just a regular filling.

The procedure for getting a crown basically has two phases. The first being the preparation. This phase includes preparing the tooth structure for the crown to fit over it. After this is completed, an impression of the prepared tooth is taken, and a crown is fabricated. The second phase is essentially cementing

the crown onto the prepared tooth. The majority of the time there is a delay between the first and second phase, as most dentists send the impressions to a dental laboratory where the crown is then fabricated. This can take as many as four weeks. The crown is then sent back to your dentist to be cemented. A temporary crown is in place until the finished crown can be cemented.

The advantages of crowns are that they are strong, last a rather long period of time, and actually help to strengthen the remaining tooth structure, as well as to replace the tooth mass that is missing.

If you want more information, visit our web site @ [www.midmichigansmile.com](http://www.midmichigansmile.com).

**Any questions,  
visit our Website at  
[www.midmichigansmile.com](http://www.midmichigansmile.com)**

**Benjamin Bailey  
D.D.S.**

**General Dentist  
308 Dartmouth Dr.  
Midland, MI 48640  
631-6075**