

Important Orthodontic Information

Patients and their parents should think of themselves as part of a team working together with our office to achieve the goal of a healthy, lifetime smile. Only the full cooperation of the patient and parents will allow this goal to be achieved in the shortest time possible.

We want your treatment to go smoothly and without interruption. Keeping appointments, caring for your braces, and following treatment recommendations faithfully will help keep your treatment on schedule.

LOOSE BANDS AND BRACKETS: Eating the wrong foods will damage your braces. Please check the *Brace Watcher's Diet* sheet. Bands can become loose and brackets can break off. When this happens, repairs must be made. Remember that each loose band or broken bracket that you have lengthens your treatment. We repair the first three loose bands or brackets free of charge; for repairs after that, you may incur an additional fee.

BROKEN APPOINTMENTS: Treatment time will be greatly increased by missed or forgotten appointments. Please call the office at least 24 hours in advance to change or cancel an appointment. Keep in mind, some procedures require additional time or equipment and can only be performed at certain times of the day. Therefore, those appointments are sometimes more difficult to schedule.

SCHEDULING APPOINTMENTS: We will do our best to accommodate your requested appointment time. However, certain types of appointments will require scheduling at specific times of the day. Routine cleanings and exams are required at 3-6 month intervals or as recommended by Dr. Fales and can be scheduled to coincide with your orthodontic appointment through lengthening the allowed time. We reserve before and after school appointments for our orthodontic patients, however, these appointment times are limited. We hope you will demonstrate understanding as we attempt to accommodate all our patient's scheduling needs.

BEING LATE FOR AN APPOINTMENT: Routine orthodontic appointments are scheduled for 30 minutes in length and all of that time is utilized each visit. If you are more than 15 minutes late, we may still be able to check your progress, however, we may not be able to complete the scheduled work until a future appointment. *Please call our office if you know you will be late.*

ORAL HYGIENE: Treatment may be delayed for anyone who neglects his or her oral hygiene. In some cases, treatment may be stopped until a more satisfactory result is obtained.