



Dental Visits and Cleanings

Your Orthodontist is just one part of your oral health care team. Orthodontics focuses on straightening teeth, not filling cavities or cleanings. Therefore, we do not routinely check for cavities during your orthodontic treatment unless they are obvious without x-rays. Your general dentist has specialized equipment for detecting cavities and keeping your teeth and gums clean and healthy. Therefore, it is essential that you have your teeth checked for cavities and cleaned every six months. We make every effort to remind you to see your dentist every six months, but it is your responsibility to maintain regular visits with your general dentist.

Please let us know when you get your cleanings and check-ups by returning the Cleaning referral form we give you. If for some reason you didn't receive a form, please check with the front staff and we'll be happy to give you a copy for your general dentist to sign and for you to return to us. It is essential that we keep track of your oral health for the best possible result of your orthodontic treatment. Dirty or diseased teeth or gums move slower than healthier teeth and gums and we want only the healthiest mouths and happiest patients in our practice.

Some general dental offices request the wires out for easier cleanings or certain dental procedures. We're happy to accommodate any requests from your dentist. It is important to coordinate schedules to minimize the number of visits. Typically, the patient needs to be seen in our office to have the wires out (a very quick appointment), they are then seen by the general dentist for cleaning and any necessary work, and then return to our office to have wires replaced and activated again. We will try to make it as easy for you as possible and try to combine the wires-in appointment with your activation. If you have any questions about this process, please ask the front desk.