## **Post-Op Care for Your Braces**

# Follow these recommendations to maximize your orthodontic treatment:

#### 1-Brush and floss your teeth

Healthy teeth respond best to consistent oral hygiene. Maintain the quality of your braces along with your teeth helps assure the best outcomes.

#### 2-Keep your appointments and follow directions

Your orthodontic success involves routine progress checks. Adjustments and observation can keep you on-track and eliminate an extended treatment period.

#### 3-Be patient

Treatment times vary. Your teeth will adjust at their own pace and according to the recommended course of treatment prescribed for you.

#### **About your spacers**

Your spacers are intended to create space in the appropriate location. You will eventually have the appropriate number of bands around your back teeth.

An over-the-counter pain reliever (Tylenol, Advil, etc) will help with any discomfort you feel when wearing spacers.

## **About your rubber bands/elastics**

Wear any bands that are recommended. This helps keep you on schedule with your orthodontic treatment.

## **About your braces**

Consult the information provided you about your specific type of braces (Diagrams, images, etc.). Get to know the various parts and be aware of any problems you have with a particular area of your braces.

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Rev: 4/01/2018



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#### **About your braces and eating**

Expect an adjustment period when eating during your braces treatment. Be patient with food choices (necessary soft foods) for the first days of treatment.

### **Avoid the following during braces treatment:**

- Gum of any kind (even sugarless)
- Sticky, chewy, and hard candies (Skittles, Now and Laters, Gummy Bears, Caramels, Tootsie Rolls, etc.).
- Hard foods including nuts, some chips, some bagels, and hard crusts (pizza, etc.).
- Corn on the cob (remove it from the cob)
- Pure, non-diluted lemon juice (no raw lemons)
- Chewing on ice

Follow these instructions to assure the best results during your braces treatment.

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Rev: 4/01/2018