

ORTHODONTICS SERIES

# Invisalign

Braces used to be the only way to straighten teeth affected by malocclusion (a bad bite). But now, we have a system called Invisalign that allows us to straighten your teeth without using the brackets and wires of traditional braces.

The patented Invisalign system uses a series of clear, removable aligners to gradually reposition teeth. We've chosen to offer the Invisalign system because the aligners are more visually appealing than braces. They're also removable, which makes it easier to clean your teeth after eating. The aligners are smooth and comfortable, and they don't irritate your gums, cheek, or tongue. The Invisalign system also eliminates any allergic reactions that you may experience with metal.



*Clear and removable*



*First we take impressions*



*Aligners fit over your teeth*

## Creating and using Invisalign

We first take impressions of your teeth, bite registrations, photographs, and x-rays. We send these materials, accompanied by a treatment plan, to the laboratory. The lab then creates the aligners—a set of precisely customized, clear molds. Each aligner is worn for about two weeks, and you'll remove them only to eat, drink, brush, and floss.

About every two weeks, you will replace the aligner with the next one in the series. Your teeth will move, a little at a time, until they are straightened to the desired position. About every six weeks, you'll visit us so that we can ensure that your treatment is progressing appropriately.

It typically takes nine to 15 months to complete orthodontic treatment with Invisalign, during which time 18 to 30 aligners are used. The time it takes to complete treatment will vary according to your specific circumstances.

After a thorough exam and a review of your health history and lifestyle, we'll be able to determine if Invisalign is right for you.