

How many missing teeth can implants support?

While the most common dental implants are single tooth implants, a few implants can also be used to support several teeth via a bridge or denture. Alternatively, you could keep your denture but have it permanently attached with as little as two implants under the right circumstances. The volume and density of the bone tissue where the replacements are required will affect how many implants are needed to replace a number of teeth.

Dental implants to replace multiple teeth



Step 1

The dentist will perform a thorough examination of your mouth. Dental Radiographs (x-rays) or even a CT (3D x-ray) may be used to determine what the jaw bone looks like. The dentist may recommend a tooth cleaning with the hygienist or therapist as the condition of the gums is very important for an implant to last.

Step 2

The implants are placed in the jawbone and allowed to heal for up to 6 months. The procedure is carried out under local anaesthetics.

Step 3

An impression is taken of your mouth for the final restoration.

Step 4

The final restoration is fitted.

Dental implants to retain a denture

Full dentures can sometimes be loose and a source of frustration for patients, affecting eating and causing embarrassment. Dental implants can be used to fix a denture securely in place, making it much more comfortable and stable. It can look and function like normal teeth and is a cost effective option compared to a full arch implant retained bridge.

Dental implants to retain a denture



Step 1

The dentist will perform a thorough examination of your mouth. Dental Radiographs (x-rays) or even a CT (3D x-ray) may be used to determine what the jaw bone looks like.

Step 2

The implants are placed in the jawbone and allowed to heal for up to 6 months. The procedure is carried out under local anaesthetics. A different number of implants will be required depending on the quality of the jaw bone and the restoration (the denture). Sometimes as little as two implants may be needed.

During the healing your own denture will be modified so that you can use as normal.

Step 3

Small "buttons" are placed on the implants to clip to the denture. An impression is taken of your mouth for the final restoration. Sometimes a new denture with "buttons" may be required but we may be able to adapt your own dentures to make it clip onto the implants. If that is the case, "buttons" will be placed in your own dentures.

Step 4

The final restoration is fitted. The dentures will stay in place.