

SPACE MAINTAINER (HOLDING ARCH)

What does it do?

This is a passive appliance used to maintain the dental status while waiting for permanent teeth to erupt.

What does it look like?

- Your space maintainer has two bands which fit around the 6-year molars and a wire that extends from the bands on the tongue side to the front teeth in the case of the lower arch.
- In the case of the upper arch, a wire attaches to a framework on the roof of the mouth.

How long will I wear the appliance?

- This appliance is cemented in place so it will remain in the mouth at all times.
- The appliance needs to be maintained to prevent space loss; therefore, treatment length will vary with each individual case and complexity. Your orthodontist will keep you informed as to your progress.

What are my responsibilities for a successful treatment?

- It is normal for your teeth to feel sore for a few days. You may take an anti-inflammatory (Ibuprofen) as needed to help you adjust.
- Avoid any hard, sticky foods or food high in sugar while appliance is in place.
- It is important that you clean your teeth and appliance thoroughly after eating including all bands, wires and framework on the roof of the mouth.
- Check your bands daily to make sure it is still cemented in place and nothing has come loose.
- Please contact our office should your appliance become bent, loose, breaks or if it is lost.



