

Welcome to your guide about replacing missing teeth at [Claregate Dental Practice](#), in Wolverhampton.

Option 1

Once a tooth has been removed there is always the option to do nothing. You may find you cope well without the tooth in which case we will leave and continue to monitor



Option 2

If you find you can't cope with the gap because it may be affecting, you're eating, speaking or you may be conscious of the aesthetics you could consider a [denture](#).

A denture is a removable dental appliance that replaces missing teeth and the surrounding gums. It's designed to restore basic functions like chewing and speaking, and to improve appearance by supporting the lips and face.

Types of dentures

- **Complete dentures** – replace all teeth in the upper or lower jaw
- **Partial dentures** – replace some missing teeth and attach to remaining natural teeth



Dentures can be acrylic or chrome (metal). Your dentist or our dental technician Steve will advise you on the best option for you.



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Option 3

If a removable appliance isn't suitable for your lifestyle, you could consider a [bridge](#).

A dental bridge is a fixed dental restoration used to replace one or more missing teeth by attaching an artificial tooth to the natural teeth.

Types of dental bridges

- Traditional bridge – supported by crowns on both sides
- Cantilever bridge – supported on one side only
- Maryland bridge – resin-bonded with metal or ceramic wings

Advantages

- Restores chewing and speaking
- Prevents shifting of adjacent teeth
- Improves appearance
- Fixed (not removable like dentures)

Disadvantages

- Requires preparation of adjacent teeth
- Can fail if supporting teeth are weak
- More expensive than removable dentures



Traditional bridge



Cantilever bridge



Maryland bridge

Your dentist will advise if a bridge is a suitable option and if so, which bridge would be best for you.



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Option 4

Your final option would be a dental [implant](#).

A dental implant is a small, artificial tooth root, typically made of titanium that is surgically placed into the jawbone to replace a missing tooth root. After the implant integrates with the bone, a crown, bridge, or denture can be attached to it, creating a long-lasting and stable replacement that functions and looks like a natural tooth.

Dental implants are a long term, comfortable solution for missing teeth.



Please use the links in this document to find out more information from our website.

If you have any questions, please contact our [Patient Care Co-ordinators](#) for a friendly chat!



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