

What happens to my teeth after dental veneers, and will I ever get cavities? - Smile Solutions

Canonical: <https://www.smilesolutions.com.au/dental-articles/article/dental-veneers-cavities/>

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What happens to my teeth after dental veneers, and will I ever get cavities? What are dental veneers? Dental veneers are thin, hollow shells of porcelain or composite (filling material) that are placed over your natural teeth for two reasons — to enhance the aesthetics of your smile, and to protect the underlying tooth. There are two types of dental veneers: porcelain and composite. Porcelain veneers are made in a dental laboratory by a technician and can potentially very closely resemble the luster and translucency of a natural tooth, and they are usually quite strong and hard wearing. They also tend to be more expensive than their composite counterparts, which are generally built up using layers of tooth-coloured filling material while the patient is in the chair. This means composite veneers can be done in just one visit, which helps reduce the cost. On the downside, however, composite doesn't tend to look quite as good (this is subjective), or last quite as long as porcelain. With a dental veneer, between 3-30% of the natural, underlying tooth's surface is sacrificed in preparation to accept the veneer, which is like a shell that sits over the top of the tooth (thus taking up space) and also needs to firmly adhere. For this reason, Dentists and their patients alike need to think carefully about whether or not this treatment is appropriate. One benefit of dental veneers, is that they can protect the underlying teeth against the onset of dental caries. More commonly referred to as cavities or simply tooth decay, caries is caused by bacteria, which produce acid that in turn wears through the teeth, causing holes. Having said this; veneers are by no means a silver bullet in preventing cavities. The most important aspects are routine flossing and brushing, combined with scale and clean with your Dental Hygienist. While the porcelain (or composite) that makes up your veneers cannot decay, the underlying teeth certainly can, and the teeth are vulnerable wherever they are exposed (at the back and sometimes the sides) and also where they contact the veneers themselves. Dental veneers are not performed on patients with high decay risk, so if your dentist or specialist prosthodontist recommends veneers as a treatment option for you, you can be assured that you are a low-risk caries patient. Also, porcelain dental veneers have been shown to resist decay, providing you brush with fluoride toothpaste twice a day and regularly use a fluoride mouthwash. Another reason decay rates are lower with dental veneers is that they are in the front of the mouth, making them easier for the patient to clean and self-check. In the unlikely event that you do experience decay after a tooth has been veneered, the decay will be easy to fill with tooth-coloured bonding if the veneer is relatively

new. In older dental veneers it would be best to replace the veneer. Are you considering dental veneers? Straighter teeth can potentially be achieved with orthodontics, such as Invisalign . Whiter teeth may be possible with Zoom! in chair whitening or take home whitening trays and gel. On the other hand, severely damaged teeth may be more suited to buildups with crowns or even the use of a dental bridge, rather than veneers. Your best course of action is a consultation with your Dentist, who will work to understand your goals and can advise on all your treatment options, as well as their respective pros and cons. Articles from Smile Solutions View Blogs Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More General Smile Solutions 10 Aug 2026 Mouth Breathing: The Silent Habit That's Changing Your Face and Your Health Read More General Smile Solutions 3 Aug 2026 How Much Does a Dental Crown Cost in Melbourne? Materials Compared Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More General Smile Solutions 10 Aug 2026 Mouth Breathing: The Silent Habit That's Changing Your Face and Your Health Read More General Smile Solutions 3 Aug 2026 How Much Does a Dental Crown Cost in Melbourne? Materials Compared Read More Specialist Care Smile Solutions 18 Aug 2026 Endodontist vs Dentist for Root Canal: Why It Makes a Difference Read More General Smile Solutions 10 Aug 2026 Mouth Breathing: The Silent Habit That's Changing Your Face and Your Health Read More General Smile Solutions 3 Aug 2026 How Much Does a Dental Crown Cost in Melbourne? Materials Compared Read More View Blog Call Us 13 13 96 Location Level 1, 220 Collins Street Manchester Unity Building, Melbourne VIC 3000 Hours Of Service Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 6.00pm Saturday: 8.30am – 1.30pm Sunday: By Appointment Our Services General Dentistry Cosmetic Dentistry Orthodontics Specialist Care Dental Implants Children's Dentistry Emergency Dentistry Why Choose Us Our Team Media Awards Careers Technology Location Holistic Dentistry Quick Links Contact Us Articles Packages & Offers Dental Payment Plans Understanding Your Treatment Sitemap Privacy Policy Copyright © Smile Solutions. All Rights Reserved. This site is protected by reCAPTCHA and the Google Privacy Policy and Terms of Service apply. Close Our Services General Dentistry Dental Cleans and Hygienists Wisdom Teeth Emergency Dentistry Root Canal Tooth Fillings Chipped or Cracked Teeth Snoring & Sleep Apnoea TMD & Teeth Grinding Sport Mouthguards Dental Anxiety Cosmetic Dentistry Porcelain Veneers & Crowns Same Day Porcelain Veneers™ Composite Bonding Professional Teeth Whitening CEREC Restorations Invisalign® No Braces All-on-4® Dental Implants Gummy Smile Complimentary Cosmetic Consultation Orthodontics Invisalign No Braces Orthodontic Braces Children's Braces and Invisalign Jaw Surgery Dental Implants All-on-4® Dental Implants Conventional & Immediate Implants Dental Bridges Bone Grafting For Implants Dentures Specialist Care Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons Prosthodontists Orthodontists Periodontists Endodontists Paediatric Dentists Complex Dentistry Children's Dentistry First Visit To The Dentist Children's Dental Emergencies Children's Braces and Invisalign Child Dental Benefit Schedule Kids Teeth Cleaning Tips Why Choose Us Our Team Our Location Technology Awards Holistic Dentistry Before After Gallery Payment Plans Packages & Offers Contact Us Call Us 13 13 96 Close Smile Solutions AI Assistant ■ Hello! I'm here to help you with questions about Smile Solutions. How can I assist you today? Popular questions: What services does Smile Solutions offer? How can I contact Smile Solutions What are your business hours? ■■ × 0 /1000 Contact Us Call Us 13 13 96 Location Level 1, 220 Collins Street Manchester Unity Building, Melbourne VIC 3000 Hours Of Service Monday – Friday: 8.00am – 6.00pm Saturday: 8.30am – 1.30pm Sunday: By Appointment Close Book Now