

SEALANTS



Sealants protect the surfaces of teeth with grooves and pits, especially the chewing surfaces of back teeth where most cavities are found. Sealants are made of shaded, tooth-colored material, similar to a white filling, and are applied to the teeth to help keep them cavity-free.

How Do Sealants Work?

Even if your child brushes and flosses carefully, it is difficult, and sometimes impossible, to clean the tiny grooves and pits on certain teeth. Toothbrush bristles are just too thick to reach into the pits and fissures. Food and bacteria build up in these depressions, placing your child in danger of tooth decay. Sealants “seal out” food and plaque, thus reducing the risk of decay.

Does My Child Need Sealants?

We place sealants on the same day as your child’s cleaning appointment. During the exam, Dr. Goodwine will evaluate based on behavior, tooth shape, groove size/depth, hygiene status, and whether your child should or should not receive sealants. If necessary, the teeth will be isolated and painted. The sealant must go on or it won’t stick to the tooth. Sealants are applied within minutes on clean, dry teeth and should last for several years.

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