

7 QUESTIONS

EVERYONE has before getting

DENTURES



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Clinic

#1

How much do dentures cost?

The simple answer is...

The price of your dentures depends heavily on what type of denture you need. Are you missing one tooth or two? Do you need a full set of dentures for your upper and lower jaw? The material the dentures are made of impacts on the price as well. Prices also vary from state to state.

The price for a **full denture**, replacing all teeth in your mouth,

reaches *from* **\$2,810 to \$5420**. If you have remaining natural teeth and require a **partial denture**, the cost depends on how many teeth you have to have replaced as well as what material you pick. While **chromium** dentures offer more comfort and last longer, they are also more expensive than **acrylic** dentures. Let's look at some price examples:

Type of Denture	Acrylic	Chrome
1 - 3 tooth denture <i>Prices from*</i>	*\$1655 to \$1885	*\$2825 to \$3055
4 - 6 tooth denture <i>Prices from*</i>	*\$2120 to \$2235	*\$3170 to \$3285
6 + tooth denture <i>Prices from*</i>	*\$2350 to \$2920	*\$3400 to \$3745
upper or lower denture <i>Prices from*</i>	*\$2810 - \$3570	no chrome option
full upper and lower denture <i>Prices from*</i>	*\$5420	no chrome option

Additional Costs

Don't shy away from asking your dental prosthetist if there will be additional costs later on in the process.

Getting teeth extracted

Do you have to get teeth extracted before getting dentures? **Tooth extraction** is an additional cost factor. Getting **one tooth** removed will cost from **\$350 up to \$550 depending on the dentists prices.**

Removing **all teeth** in the upper or lower jaw can cost into the **\$1000s.** The price depends on the number of teeth you will have to get removed.

Subsequent costs: denture relines

Many people choose to get **immediate dentures**, meaning that the denture will go into their mouth **the same day** they have their natural teeth removed, rather than waiting until the gums have fully healed.

Because the **shape of the gums** will still change for weeks or potentially months, immediate dentures might not fit properly anymore after some time and even cause painful sores. If this is the case, you should consider a *soft reline*.

For a **soft reline**, the dental technician layers a liquid polymer into the denture. This lining material provides a **spongy, cushioned layer** between your denture and the soft tissues in your mouth.

Around **five months later**, when your gums have stopped changing, you should get a **hard reline** for your denture, giving it its final shape.



Usually, these relines are not included in the initial price package. A **soft reline** can cost from **\$365 to \$730**, **hard relines** range *from* **\$407 to \$780 (per arch).**

Don't let the price make the decision ❌

It may be tempting to get quotes from various denture clinics and opt for the most affordable one. However, the cheapest option may not always be the best. Before making your final decision, you should do the following:

- ✔ Ask friends and family for recommendations.
- ✔ Ask your dentist for recommendations.
- ✔ Check online reviews on Google and Facebook.
- ✔ Ask how many years of experience the prosthetist has.
- ✔ Listen to your intuition. You have to be able to trust your dental prosthetist.

Don't have a friend or family member to recommend a dental prosthetist to you? You will often find reviews by previous patients on Google.



#2

Should I get dentures or dental implants?

While for some people, dental implants are a great choice, for others dentures are the best option. Here is a list of the pros and cons of the two options. Here is a list of pros and cons of the two options.

Pros & Cons of Dental Implants

PROS

- 👍 You can care for your implants just like for natural teeth. They require brushing and flossing.
- 👍 Implants feel more like natural teeth. You can eat any type of food without restrictions.
- 👍 Implants will not affect speech.
- 👍 Dental implants will not affect neighbouring teeth. They are less likely to require future dental procedures. Implants can **last for decades** if you care for them properly.

CONS

- 👎 Dental implants can cost from \$3,000 for a single tooth **up to \$50,000+** for a full set of teeth.
- 👎 Implants require one or more surgical procedures. You will have to regularly get professional hygiene cleans for your implants to ensure no infection occurs under the gum.



Pros & Cons of Dentures

PROS

- 👍 Dentures are **more affordable** than implants. Before taking your finished dentures home, you will **trial- test** and assess if you like the look of them.
- 👍 Dentures provide time for your mouth to heal following tooth removal surgery. Putting in dentures requires **no surgery**.
- 👍 If your dentures break, a dental technician can usually fix them, pretty quickly in most cases
- 👍 If you prefer dental implants but cannot afford them just yet, you can wear dentures as a more affordable interim solution.

CONS

- 👎 Dentures might feel less natural than implants. You have to take them out twice a day and clean them. They can impede your speech and eating habits this is **an adjustment period for your tongue to get used to**.
- 👎 Acrylic dentures cover a large surface in your mouth, giving a bigger feel overall. There are **types of foods** you will have to avoid or eat with care, like popcorn or hard crusty breads. You will have to get every denture **replaced eventually**.
- 👎 Acrylic dentures usually last 5-6 years, chrome ones 7-12 years.



#3

Is getting dentures painful?

Yes, but...

It is normal to experience a small amount of **gum pain or discomfort** after the first few weeks of getting new dentures. Often, new dentures rub against your gums, irritating them and causing pain. Especially **spots where you had teeth extracted** may be sore for a while. Other times, your dentures may just need an adjustment. When moulds are first taken, that only captures a snapshot of your mouth in time, moulds can not predict the chewing action that your mouth does , so then you will need an adjustment for the “fine tuning” of

the denture. Even people who have been wearing dentures for years experience pain when getting a new set of dentures.

During this period, you should **be patient** with yourself and your body. Sores and irritations need time to heal, and your mouth needs time to adjust. During the healing process, you can get a *soft reline (Tissue conditioner)*. For the soft reline, a dental technician adds a layer of elastic material to your denture. This layer creates a cushion between the hard denture and your gums.



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#4

Will others notice that I am wearing dentures?

Not, unless you tell them

If you don't tell others that you are wearing dentures, they should not be able to tell.

Of course, this also depends on the **tooth colour** you pick for your dentures. An experienced dental prosthetist will help you choose the

most natural-looking colour for your skin tone. Are you getting a **partial denture**? There is a wide range of shades so that the teeth in your denture will match the colour of your natural teeth perfectly.



While most people choose straight teeth for their dentures, others prefer a more natural and crooked look. The choice is all yours.

#5

I need to get teeth extracted. What is the healing process like?

Consider immediate dentures

After you have got your teeth extracted, your **soft gum tissue needs about 10 to 14 days to close over and heal**. However, the healing and changes within the underlying bone may take several months. If you have to get teeth removed before getting dentures, you may consider getting **immediate dentures**. Immediate dentures mean that your dental prosthetist takes an impression of your mouth

before your tooth extraction. You can then time the process so that your **dentures are ready** to go into your mouth **the same day** you get your teeth removed. Be aware that during the healing process the shape of your **gum tissue will continue to change**. This means that although your dental prosthetist fitted the dentures perfectly to your mouth, after some weeks, they might not fit properly anymore and require a **reline**.

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Immediate dentures are a way to get denture teeth inserted on the same day that you get your natural teeth removed. It is done as a team effort with your dentist to ensure the process is easy and smooth.

**Mark Banks, Dental Prosthetist at
[The Denture Clinic](#)**



#6

How long will my dentures take to make?

How long it takes to finish your dentures **depends** a lot on what type of denture you are getting. In most cases, though, you will have to wait **between 3 to 6 weeks**.

1st appointment: your initial consultation

During your **initial consultation**, the dental prosthetist will discuss your **denture needs** with you, address what problems you are facing and explain the process of getting dentures. They will then give you a

quote. If you agree with the cost, the dental prosthetist can proceed to take impressions of your mouth to get **moulds of the upper and lower jaws**.

What happens in the denture lab now?

The technician mixes a **dental stone, powder and water**. They then pour this paste into the mould to get a

stone model of your upper and lower jaws. Then a bite block, made of wax, will be created on the cast models.



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2nd appointment: bite registration

Seven days after, you will have to come in for the **bite registration appointment**. During this appointment, the dental prosthetist collects measurements from your jaws, using the wax bites the dental

technician made. You will have to **bite down onto the wax** which records the bite marks. Additionally, you and the prosthetist will choose the most suiting **tooth colour** for your denture.

What happens in the denture lab now?

The technician waxes the upper and lower bite rims together, giving an **exact scenario of the mouth**. They

will now pick teeth in the colour you chose and set them into a **wax base plate**.

3rd appointment: wax try-in

Seven to twenty-one days after the bite registration, you will have your **try-in** appointment. You will be able

to try in a **wax replica** of the denture and assess if you are happy with the look of it.



What happens in the denture lab now?

After you and the dental prosthetist have approved the try-in, it is time to turn the **wax replica into an acrylic**

denture. The dental technician invests the wax into a mould, melts the wax away and replaces it with acrylic.

4th appointment: your denture is ready

7-14 days after the third appointment, your denture will be finished. In the fourth and last appointment, the dental prosthetist makes sure

the **denture fits well** and that you can **remove and insert it easily.** You will also get instructions on how to take care of your denture.

5th appointment: review

During the last appointment, the dental prosthetist will review **how the denture is working for you** and if your mouth has settled in with it.

They will discuss with you if there are any **sore spots or areas of concern** and make sure the bite feels okay.



#7

How will dentures change my everyday life?

Dentures can be life-changing

To many people, getting dentures **means a lot more than replacing missing teeth**. It can restore normality for them and be a truly life-changing event.

1. Dentures can improve your ability to speak

It can be difficult to speak clearly if you've got missing teeth. Dentures can **close the gaps between your teeth and improve your speech**. That being said, if you haven't been wearing dentures before, you will

find it difficult to speak with artificial teeth in your mouth in the beginning. It **might take some time** and practice before you can speak perfectly with your new dentures in.



If you notice a change in your ability to speak after having had your dentures for a while, speak to your dental prosthetist about it.

2. Dentures can improve your social life and self-confidence

Having a full set of teeth again can have a huge impact on your social life. Dentures will help you speak more clearly and smile at others with confidence. Whether you want to go on a date, impress in a job in-

terview or simply have a friendly chat with your friends without worrying about your teeth: your self-confidence will experience a boost once you have a well-fitting set of dentures.

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I had a patient who had not been dating in over five years. When I asked why he had said the sole reason was he didn't like his teeth and was too embarrassed. As soon as he got his new dentures, his smile lit up, and he was ready to try the dating scene again.

**Mark Banks, Dental Prosthetist at
[The Denture Clinic](#)**



3. Dentures will change your appearance

Missing teeth can lead to drooping skin around your jawline. By replacing the missing teeth with

dentures and **filling in the sagging skin**, giving you a fuller look in your lips and cheeks.

Dentures can:



fill out your cheeks and lips
draw the corners of your lips up
soften the lines around your mouth
lengthen the distance between
your nose and chin

4. Dentures can help you eat properly again

Eating with several teeth missing can be a real challenge. Many people **avoid certain foods or even dining out**, to hide their struggle. Dentures can restore your ability to eat. Just like speaking with dentures, eating with dentures **will take some**

time to get used to though. During the first few weeks of getting new dentures, your mouth still has to adjust and heal, so that you will have to stick to soft foods at first. Eventually, sores and irritations will heal and you will be able to **eat most foods** without restrictions.





We have 4 locations in Canberra:

Phillip

53 Colbee Court
Phillip ACT 2606

Dickson

1/2 Dickson Place
Dickson ACT 2602

Tuggeranong

Suite 8A Tuggeranong Square
310 Anketell St Greenway
ACT 2900

Belconnen

Suite 8 27 Lathlain St
Belconnen ACT 2617

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