

HAWKINS ORTHODONTICS

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NEW PATIENT GUIDE

STEP 1: NEW PATIENT EXAM & DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS

COMPLIMENTARY

At this first appointment, Dr. Hawkins will examine the patient to determine if orthodontic treatment is needed, and if so, when to begin treatment. Digital intra-oral and extra-oral photographs will be taken and ready for you to view before you leave the office. If the patient is ready for treatment, Dr. Hawkins will explain the preliminary diagnosis and treatment plan with estimated length of time needed in treatment. You should plan on this initial appointment lasting about one hour. If treatment is indicated and time allows, orthodontic records may be taken at this appointment to save an additional visit to the office. Otherwise, a records appointment can be made at this time.

STEP 2: FULL RECORDS: (Includes Impressions, Models, Bite Registration, and X-Rays)

All orthodontists require orthodontic records before beginning treatment of any patient. Once you are ready to proceed with treatment after your initial new patient exam, panoramic and lateral cephalometric x-rays, impressions (dental molds), and a bite registration will be taken. All of these procedures, along with the photographs taken at the new patient exam, are necessary for Dr. Hawkins to make an accurate definitive diagnosis. This appointment will take about 35-40 minutes, and a fee will be collected at the time of service. We collect \$310 for a records/consultation fee. However, if only certain records are needed the fee will be adjusted accordingly.

STEP 3: FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATION

Included in Records Fee

After Dr. Hawkins finishes analyzing your diagnostic models (prepared from the dental impressions), x-rays and photos, he will either confirm, or in some cases modify the original diagnosis and treatment plan that was discussed at your initial exam visit. If the diagnostic records show unexpected conditions or complications, Dr. Hawkins will discuss alternate treatment options with you at this time. Your contract and financial arrangement options will also be explained to you at this visit. Once you have had a chance to discuss and accept your treatment plan, spacers (small elastics), if needed, can be placed at this appointment. Spacer placement should only take about five minutes.

STEP 4: BEGINNING TREATMENT

SELECT PAYMENT PLAN

Following the final consultation and spacer placement appointment, the scheduling coordinator will set up the appointment(s) needed for placement of braces and/or other appliances. Your contract will be signed and **your initial payment will be due at this time in the form of cash, check or credit card.** If general dental care is needed, the patient will usually be sent to their general dentist for these services before braces are placed. Usually, a week after spacers are placed, the molar bands and/or brackets will be placed. Adjustment appointments then commence and continue at regular intervals until treatment is finished.

If you have any questions, please give our office a call. We will be happy to help you!