

Dr. Zachary Hodgins:

It's really important to portray yourself in the right light. I think it can improve that first impression, but it also can improve the way they interact with people as well. We have a lot of patients that come to us for a solution for their smile that they're not happy with, cosmetic dentistry. The variety of reasons can really range from somebody that might be getting married in a couple months, and they want to have whiter teeth, all the way up to somebody that's not happy with their smile, so they want to have a smile makeover. A beauty pageant contestant, or somebody that's been thinking about straighter, whiter teeth for a lifetime, and now they're 65 years old and they want to have it done.

Dr. Zachary Hodgins:

We sit down with them and we really talk about in detail what they want their smile to look like. We want to make sure that we're both on the same page as far as what their goals are, what their budget is, and also time-wise as well. So once we have all that mapped out, we would sit down with the patient and talk to them about what they really want that smile to look like. Whether it be bringing in a magazine with a particular photo in it that they love, or a high school picture with their smile they haven't had in years. We'll actually model what they want their smile to look like with our dental lab. And that's where the technology really comes into play because we can actually communicate that to our laboratory and say, "Okay, this is what we really want. This is the smile design that we want." And then they'll actually make a wax mock-up of what the teeth will look like.

Dr. Zachary Hodgins:

And then from there, we'll do the preparation appointment to where we'll numb the patient, make sure they're comfortable and then prepare the teeth. They'll actually leave that same day with an amazing temporary smile, so it's like a test drive, basically. So it's going to look incredible. If they want to make any changes, we can make small tweaks of that as well. The final appointment will actually be placing those porcelain veneers or crowns or whatever you chose to do in the final equipment.

Dr. Zachary Hodgins:

We hear all the time, once we complete a smile makeover, "I'm just so much happier with my smile." They'd get comments like, "Oh, my gosh, you look 10 years younger." We get comments like that all the time, but also from people that have a big event coming up. I had a patient this other day who her daughter was getting married in North Carolina, and she wanted to have a nice smile. We planned this out about three months prior to the wedding, and we did a total smile makeover for her, and she was actually able to smile in the pictures. Whereas before, she wasn't smiling at all, and she knew that she had this big event that she really had to look as good as possible for her daughter, and she can really be proud of those photos.

Dr. Zachary Hodgins:

Once we're finished with the procedure, we'll actually have them hold a mirror. And just that look on their face, a lot of times it'll evoke crying or tears, and that's really the best part.