

At what age should your child have orthodontic treatment?

To help increasingly younger patients, braces are now more discreet and comfortable

HOW EARLY SHOULD MY CHILDREN BE EXAMINED?

With today's technology, children as young as five are candidates for orthodontics.

At this age, kids will have all of their "baby" teeth in, and permanent teeth usually start to come in around age six or seven. Since bones are still growing at that age, it is easy for dentists and orthodontists to evaluate the teeth and jaw for overcrowding and spacing issues.

WHAT PROBLEMS CAN EARLY ORTHODONTICS FIX?

Orthodontic treatment can help with proper jaw size and crowding. It promotes better bone growth and allows teeth to grow in straight.

When left untreated, a condition called "cross-bite" can cause crowding and uneven jaw development. While protruding front teeth cannot be permanently corrected until "adult teeth" have come in, early orthodontic treatment can reduce the severity of the problem.

"We know that early intervention is key," says Dr. Fox. "Early treatment is important because early realignment of teeth can reduce or prevent full orthodontic treatment in later years."

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR MY CHILD TO HAVE STRAIGHT TEETH?

Straight teeth don't just look nice in pictures. Correcting your child's smile early may reduce mouth breathing, thumb sucking and speech impediments. It will also enhance long term periodontal health, giving them the best smile and boost of confidence when their self-image is developing in their teen years.



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DR. FOX PROVIDES ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

Dr. Fox provides early orthodontic treatment. Referral to a specialist may be needed.

Fox Dental is located at 635 Markham Rd. in Scarborough. For more information, call the office at (416) 438-6699 or visit www.foxdental.com