Sunflex Partials: the perfect fit

We present a quick technique with illustrations

Sunflex Partials are one of the finest solutions in partial denture treatment available on the market today. Thousands of dentists and patients around the world have made the switch to them. Denser than other flexible partials, Sunflex has the perfect degree of flexibility, is stain-resistant, and does not discolour, warp, or become brittle (if cared for correctly). Providing maximum retention, stability, and aesthetic appeal.

Sunflex is an excellent implant healing partial and can be used as a bilateral or unilateral denture. For cases with a free end saddle or where the anterior teeth are missing, it can be used in combination with metal framework for enhanced stability.

If necessary, Sunflex chairside adjustments can be easily made with tools that were especially designed for the Sunflex nylon thermoplastic resin (Figure 1). Teeth and clasps can be added to the partial at a later time without demarcation lines, and it can also be rebased in the lab.



Understanding the distinctive features of Sunflex in comparison to other partial dentures and how they translate into preparation procedures and adjustment techniques is vital to the success of a Sunflex case.

Shade selection

Sunflex translucency readily adapts to a variety of natural tissue shades and is available in four tones. Shade guides are provided on request.

Impression

The best type of impression material to use is alginate such as Hydrogum 5. The powder should be gently stirred from the bottom of the container to the top to redistribute the heavier elements that control shrinkage in the impression.

Insertion

Immediately prior to inserting it in the patient's mouth, immerse the Sunflex partial in very hot tap water for approximately two minutes. Once the partial cools to a tolerable temperature, gently insert it into the patient's mouth. This first step is very important since it allows for a very smooth insertion and a good adaptation with the natural tissues in the mouth. Incase of clasp tightness, it may be loosened slightly by being immersed in hot water for 30 seconds and bent outwards while underneath cold tap water. If a clasp requires tightening, follow the same procedure, bending it inward.

Adjustments

If further adjustments are necessary after insertion, the Sunflex Tool Kit is recommended.

For effective reduction of the periphery edge, relief in tissue-contacting areas and to ease tightness or difficulty in insertion and removal, use the green silicone-carbide abrasive point, which permits fine adjustments to be made with a minimum degree of roughness on the surface (Figure 2).

You may also use the green and brown rubber point. Set your hand piece on a low speed and reduce the area by light abrasion of the material, making sure you use the hand piece in one direction. Too much pressure may burn or distort the denture. After reducing the area, use the brown rubber point at slow speed with rapid back-and-forth movements to rubberise, smooth, and prepolish the surface (Figure 3). Note that fibres that appear during grinding can be removed with a very sharp blade.



Figure 2



Figure 3

Polishing

Repolishing is often not necessary when the green point is used properly. If necessary, it can be done with coarse pumice and brown Tripoli using a soft rag wheel. A high lustre can be restored to the surface using an acrylic polishing compound following the Tripoli application.

Adding teeth and clasps

All tooth, clasp, or saddle additions must be completed in the laboratory using Sunflex resin. Make sure the base of the partial is completely clean. Take an alginate impression with the partial in place in the mouth and send to the laboratory with instructions immediately.

Rebase

If a rebase is indicated, simply take a new upper and lower alginate impression and send to our laboratory together with the original denture.

Further information on the services we provide can be obtained from:

Sun Dental Labs on 01226 786163 or visit the www.sundentallabs.co.uk



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