

AESTHETIC FINALIZATION OF THE SMILE USING CLASS V COMPOSITE RESTORATIONS

Improving the aesthetics of a single tooth can lend symmetry and harmony to the entire smile. Through a simplified approach to class V composite restorations, both white and pink aesthetics can be maximized.

A 27-year-old patient presents to me because she is not happy with her smile. The teeth of her upper arch present incorrect inclination with canting of the incisal plane.

An orthodontic treatment is performed, using transparent aligners to correct the inclination of the teeth.

Once alignment is achieved, external bleaching using 16% carbamide peroxide is carried out.

Tooth 12, despite its correct orthodontic position, has a gingival parabola with the zenith more coronal than tooth 22, creating asymmetry in the gingival architecture and making the smile less harmonious.

Once the correct positioning of the bone ridge has been ascertained both clinically and radiographically, it is decided to make the gingival parabolas symmetrical by means of a direct Class V composite restoration, apicalising the zenith of tooth 12.

A first retraction cord (00) is inserted, followed by a second cord (0). After a few minutes, the second cord is removed, etchant - 37% orthophosphoric acid - is applied, followed by adhesive and Visalys® Fill A1 composite layer using spatulas and brushes.

Once the last layer of composite has cured, the first retraction cord is removed and the restoration is finished, first with a medium-grain finishing bur (862), followed by polishing and buffing rubbers.

The minimally invasive procedure often requires no anaesthetic and tissue healing occurs within 24/48 hours.

The use of high-quality materials combined with adherence to operating protocols allows predictable brilliant results. Particularly in an aesthetic case such as the one described, the mimetic properties of the composite and the possibility of having a highly polished surface layer plays a key role in the success of the restoration and the clinical case as a whole.



Fig. 1: initial smile



Fig. 2: orthodontic treatment



Fig. 3: gingival architecture



Fig. 4: gingival retraction



Fig. 5: adhesive procedures



Fig. 6: composite layering



Fig. 7: finishing procedure



Fig. 8: immediate post-operative



Fig. 9: smile before and after



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