

Invisalign revisited

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Q: Am I a candidate for Invisalign?

A: Not so strangely, this is the most frequent question I am asked about Invisalign. Many people just don't believe they would be a candidate for Invisalign either because they think they are too old for any type of orthodontics or because their teeth are too rotated/crooked or they only need a minor amount of correction. In actuality over 85% of the adult population could be treated using Invisalign. This is a very exciting figure when you consider the advantages of Invisalign when compared to traditional orthodontics.



ACTUAL PATIENT BEFORE INVISALIGN™

Q: Will they hurt like traditional braces?

A: In three words, yes and no. There is discomfort anytime you move teeth as the bone remodels, but there won't be wires poking you or brackets cutting your lips. Typically I advise patients as they are about to change to a new set of aligners to take Advil PM 30 minutes prior to bed time, then put in the new aligners when they go to bed and by the next day the majority of the discomfort is over.

Q: Do I have to wear them all the time?

A: No, the aligners need to be removed when eating, drinking (especially hot liquids), and when doing your daily oral hygiene. They may also be removed at other times when you feel it is necessary, but remember: to have the best chance of success with any type of orthodontics patient compliance is necessary. So the more you wear them the better chance you have for a successful outcome. Typically 20-22 hours of wear per day is a good "rule of thumb" for success.



ACTUAL PATIENT AFTER INVISALIGN™

Q: I've had braces before and don't want them again. Can I do Invisalign?

A: Usually these patients are the best candidates for Invisalign Express. These patients have already had any skeletal issues addressed with traditional orthodontics (which Invisalign struggles to correct) but have relapsed because they haven't worn their retainer.

Invisalign Express, which is 10 aligners or less, is ideal for these patients because they can be corrected quickly by just moving those teeth that have shifted position back into their correct alignment.

Q: Will I have to wear retainers after I am done with Invisalign?

A: I asked the same question when I got my braces off at the age of 35- they didn't have Invisalign back then. My orthodontist told me I only had to wear them as long as I wanted my teeth to stay straight. So yes, you have to wear them, but even retainers have changed significantly since Invisalign was developed.

Q: Do they really work?

A: I thought I would include a couple of pictures so you could answer that question for yourself. If you have more questions please feel free to drop by our office and we would be happy to answer you questions.

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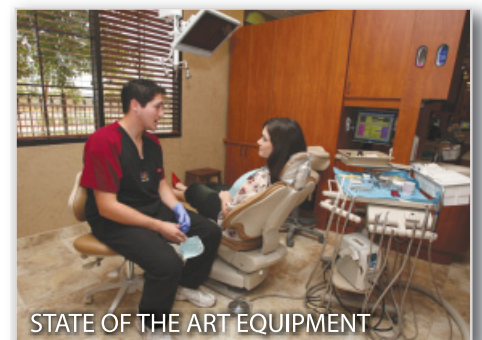
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Dr. David Rush attended Brigham Young University for Undergrad degrees and received his Doctorate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry. After graduation, Dr. Rush and his family moved to Arizona, and opened Ahwatukee Family Dental. Dr. Rush is a member of the Central Arizona Dental Association, Arizona Dental Association, The Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation, The Academy of General Dentistry, and The American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry. Just recently, Dr. Rush opened Fulton Ranch Dental in Chandler, located at 4909 South Alma School Road, Suite 1. You can reach the Chandler office at 480.895.7070. Dr. Rush's Ahwatukee Family Dental office is located at 11022 South 51st Street, Suite 105. The phone number there is 480.893.7674



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