

Dental implants replace missing teeth.

There are different ways to replace missing teeth, such as bridges, dentures or **dental implants**. Dental implants have two parts: (1) a root replacement (metal screw) inserted into the jawbone, and (2) a crown replacement (artificial tooth).



Important Things to Know:

- To support the implant, a person needs a healthy jawbone and gums.
- The process of replacing teeth with implants takes many months.
- Long-term success requires good daily oral hygiene (practice of keeping the mouth healthy, e.g., brushing) and routine follow-up.

Risk Factors for Implant Failure:

- History of tooth loss from bone or gum problems
- Poor oral hygiene
- Smoking/vaping
- Uncontrolled diabetes

Before



After



Caring for Dental Implants at Home:

- Brush two times a day.
- Clean between the teeth regularly using floss or interdental (between teeth) brushes. If implants are attached to nearby teeth or hold a permanent denture (that can not be removed), floss aids or interdental brushes (e.g., soft pick) are recommended.
- Use a water flosser (or water pick), which shoots water to clean around the implant.



Toothbrush



String Floss



Soft Pick



Water Flosser

