

TADS serve as

anchors to help

move teeth.

**TEMPORARY
ANCHORAGE
DEVICES**

TADS



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COMMON TAD QUESTIONS

WHAT ARE TADs?

TADs, temporary anchorage devices, are mini pins, ranging from 6-to-12 millimeters in length and 1.2 to 2 millimeters in diameter.

WHERE ARE THEY PLACED?

In the bone between the roots of the teeth or in the roof of the mouth. Placement is customized for each patient.

WHAT'S THE BENEFIT?

TADs provide a fixed point from which to apply force to move teeth. They may contribute to predictable results, or shorter treatment time. TADs allow orthodontists to overcome traditional limitations. They can also provide a point of anchorage for patients with missing teeth.

DOES IT HURT?

Placement is minimally invasive and often completed using only topical anesthetic. There is little or no discomfort because there are no nerve endings in the bone tissue. Once placed, your orthodontist is able to use the TAD as anchorage immediately.

WHO PLACES THE TAD?

Many orthodontists place TADs themselves. Some will choose to have a TAD placed by another dental specialist.

HOW LONG ARE THEY LEFT IN?

Your orthodontist will advise you on how long your TAD is needed. It may be for a few months or it may be needed throughout the entire treatment.

HOW LONG DOES TREATMENT TAKE?

An average of less than two years, but can range from one to three years. When active treatment ends, retainers are prescribed for most patients.

DOES AGE MATTER?

TADs are placed on patients who have permanent teeth. Patients with active gum disease may not be candidates.

HOW DO I CARE FOR MY TAD?

TADs generally require routine brushing. Because TADs can loosen or fall out, patients should avoid picking or pulling on them. If a TAD does come out, contact your orthodontist as soon as possible.



**THEY
MAY BE
SMALL,
BUT THEY
DO A BIG
JOB.**

Orthodontists receive an additional two-to-three years of specialized education beyond dental school to learn the proper way to align teeth and correct bites. Only those who successfully complete this formal education may call themselves orthodontists, and only orthodontists can be members of the American Association of Orthodontists. Learn more: aaoinfo.org.