

# Lecture 1-Principles of Tooth Preparations

By Dr Cheryl Fu



# Expected Reading:



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**



Oral Health Centre  
of Western Australia

**THE READING WILL  
BE EXAMINABLE  
CONTENT!**

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA

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onesearch

fundamentals of fixed prosthodontics X OneSearch

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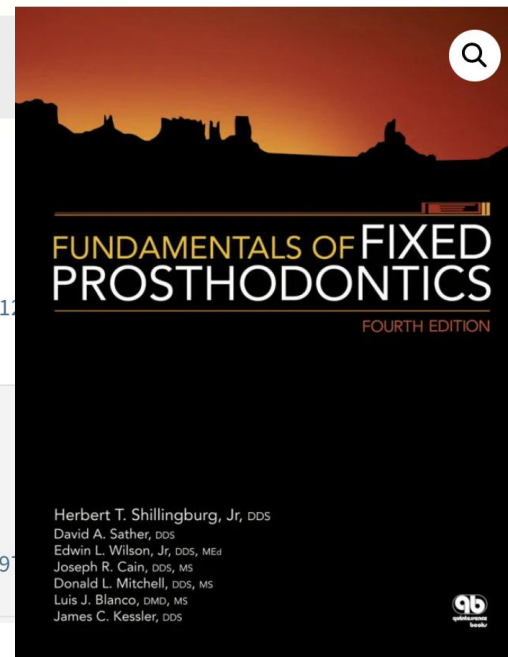
Resource Type

Subject

PAGE 1 1-10 of 44 Results

1 BOOK  
**Fundamentals of fixed prosthodontics ; Fourth edition.**  
Shillingburg, Herbert T.; Sather, David A.  
Hanover Park, IL : Quintessence Pub.; 2012  
Available at J. Robin Warren Library Main collection (Q 617.69 2012)  
Available Online

2 BOOK  
**Fundamentals of fixed prosthodontics ; 3rd ed.**  
Shillingburg, Herbert T.  
Chicago : Quintessence Pub. Co.; c1997  
Available at J. Robin Warren Library Main collection (Q 617.69 1997)



# Learning Outcomes:

- Understand basic terminology for crown preparations
- Understand indications of crowns
- Understand the importance of the mechanical, biological, and aesthetic principles of tooth preparation

## **Reading for this lecture:**

*Fundamentals of Fixed Prosthodontics: Chapter 9 Principles of Tooth Preparations*  
*Contemporary of Fixed Prosthodontics: Chapter 7 Principles of Tooth Preparations*



# Why Does a Tooth Need a Crown?



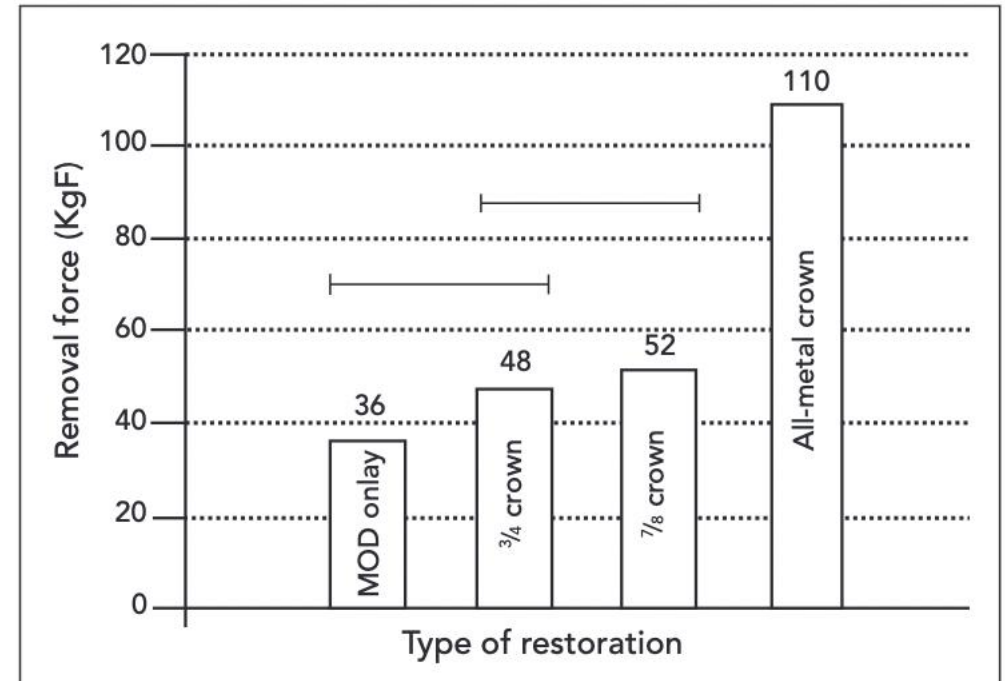
As part of DMD1 and DMD2 (Semester 1)  
you have learnt about:

- Composite restorations
- Amalgam restorations

So why do we need crown?

Considerations for a crown:

- Destruction of tooth structure
- Aesthetics
- Plaque Control/Moisture Control
- Retention
- Finance\*
- Other prosthodontic treatment (survey crowns for RPDs)



**Fig 6-1** A comparison of resistance to removal forces for four types of crowns ( $P = .05$ ).<sup>1,2</sup> MOD, mesio-occlusodistal.



# Why Does a Tooth Need a Crown?

Considerations for a crown:

- **Destruction of tooth structure**
- Aesthetics
- Plaque Control/Moisture Control
- **Retention**

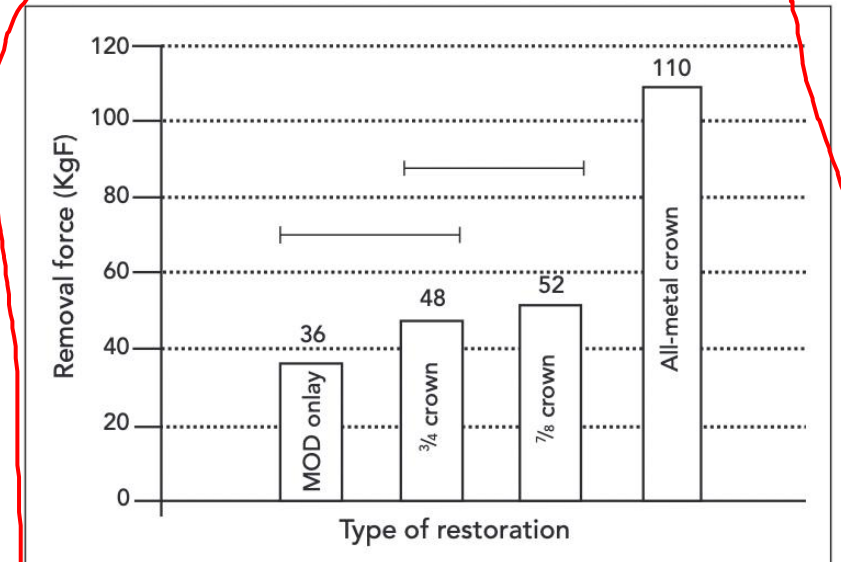


**Figure 3a.**



**Figure 3b.**

**Figure 3.** Patients abusing methamphetamine often present with rampant caries.  
(Photos courtesy of Dr. Jinus Emrani)



**Fig 6-1** A comparison of resistance to removal forces for four types of crowns ( $P = .05$ ).<sup>1,2</sup> MOD, mesio-occlusodistal.

*Fundamental of Fixed Prosthodontics*



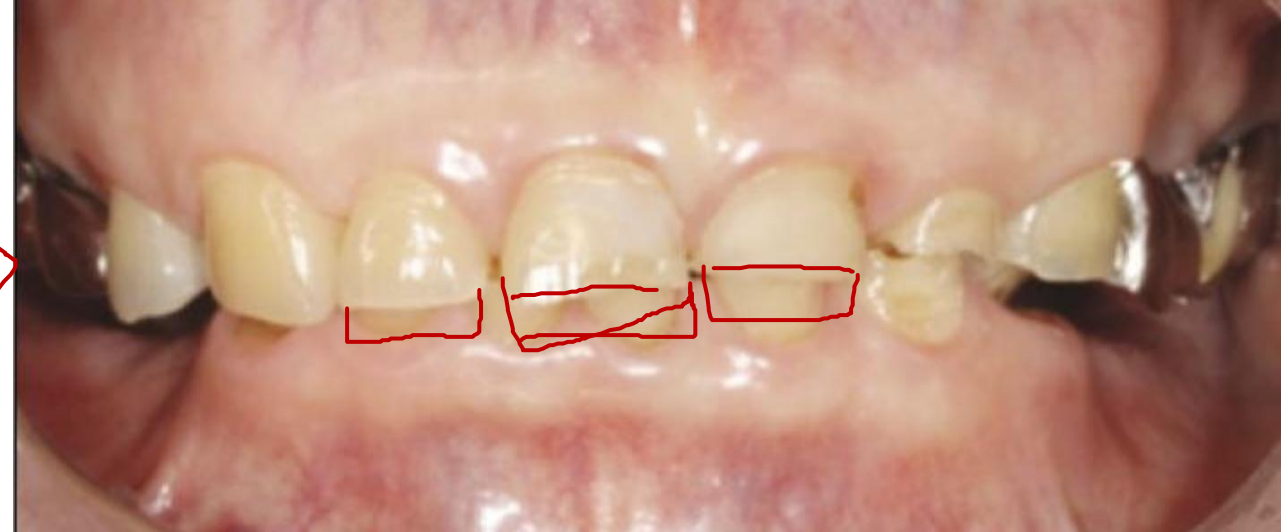
# Why Does a Tooth Need a Crown?

Considerations for a crown:

- Destruction of tooth structure
- **Aesthetics**
- Plaque Control/Moisture Control
- Retention



*Photo by tetracycline staining by Dr. Alessandro Martini*



*Song MY, Park JM, Park EJ. Full mouth rehabilitation of the patient with severely worn dentition: a case report.*

# Why Does a Tooth Need a Crown?

Considerations for a crown:

- Destruction of tooth structure
- Aesthetics
- **Plaque Control/Moisture Control**
- Retention

Some studies report a lower annual failure rate in indirect restorations (ceramic restorations 1.9%) compared to direct (composite 2.2%, amalgam 3%) restorations.

The predominant mode of failure of ceramic restorations is bulk fracture.

The predominant mode of failure for composite restorations were reported to be marginal breakdown (secondary caries or deterioration) or fracture.

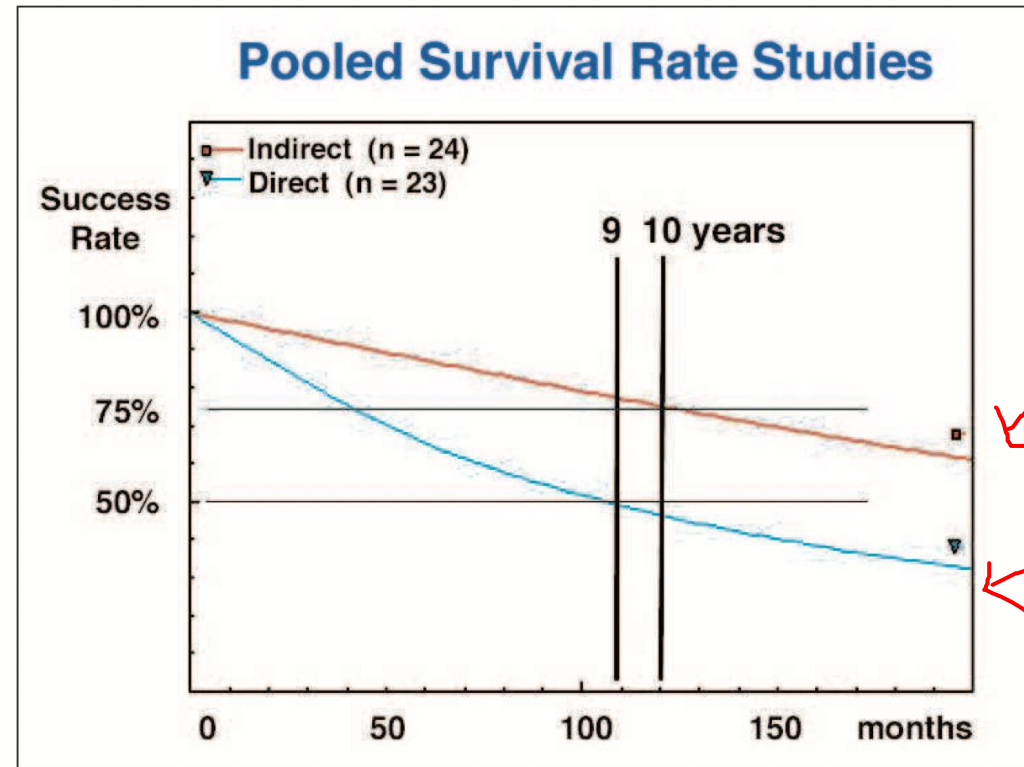
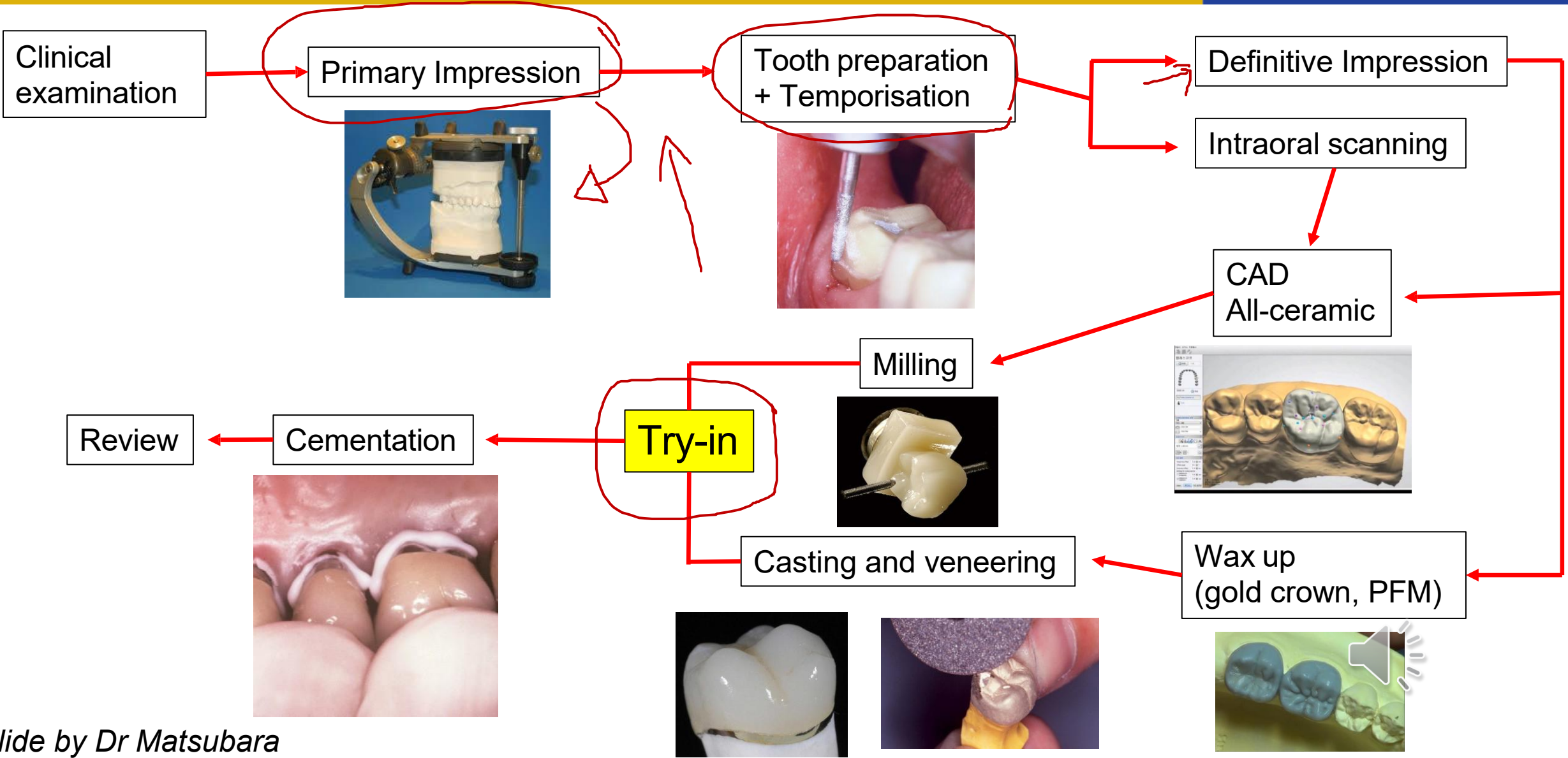


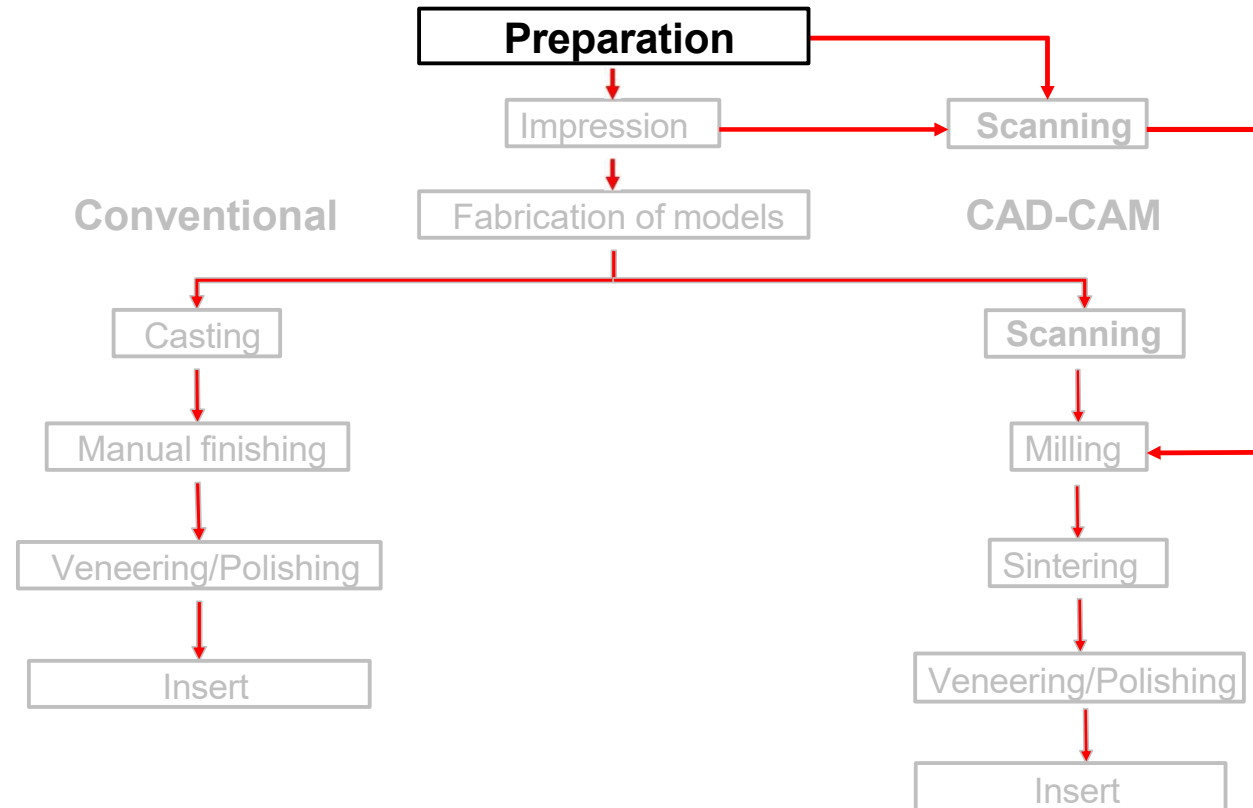
Figure 2. Comparison of the published survival curves of direct restorations (amalgam and composite) vs indirect adhesive inlays with the 2-parameter fit.

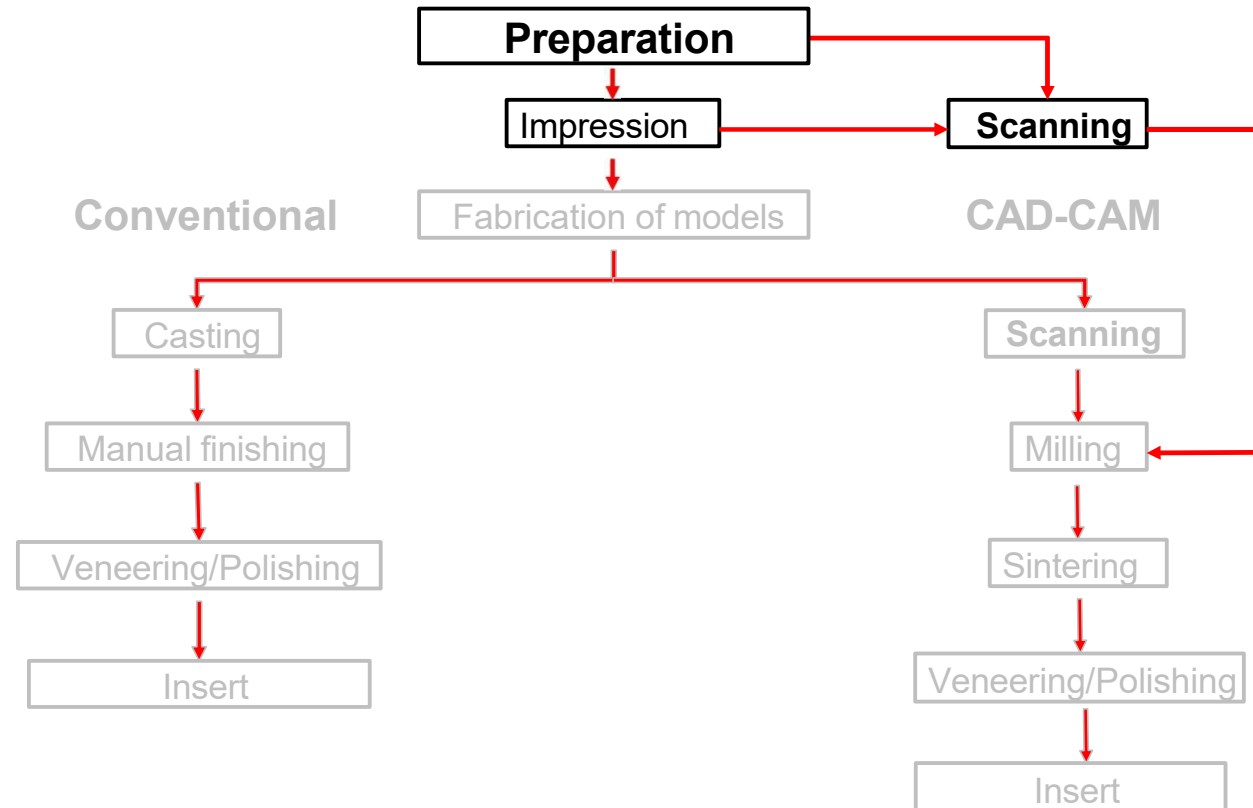


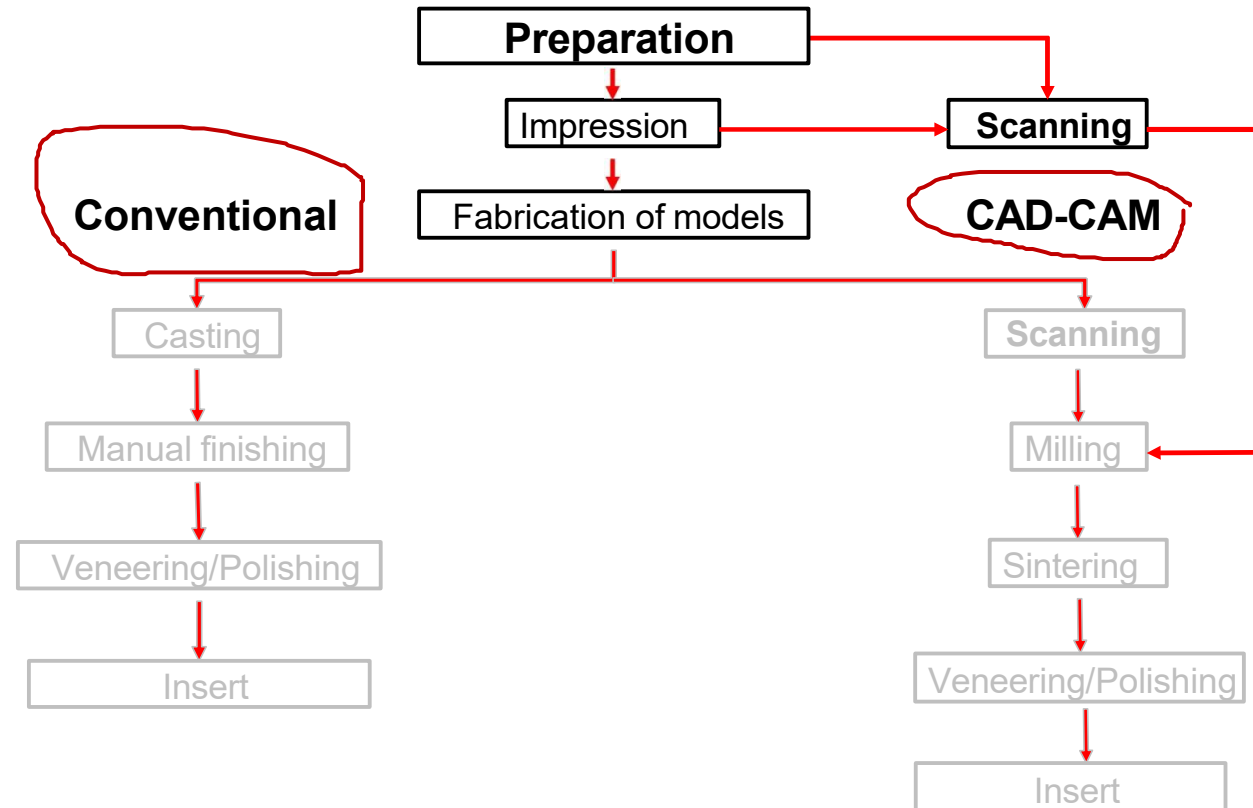
Manhart J, Chen HY, Hamm G, Hickel R. Review of the clinical survival of direct and indirect restorations in posterior teeth of the permanent dentition.

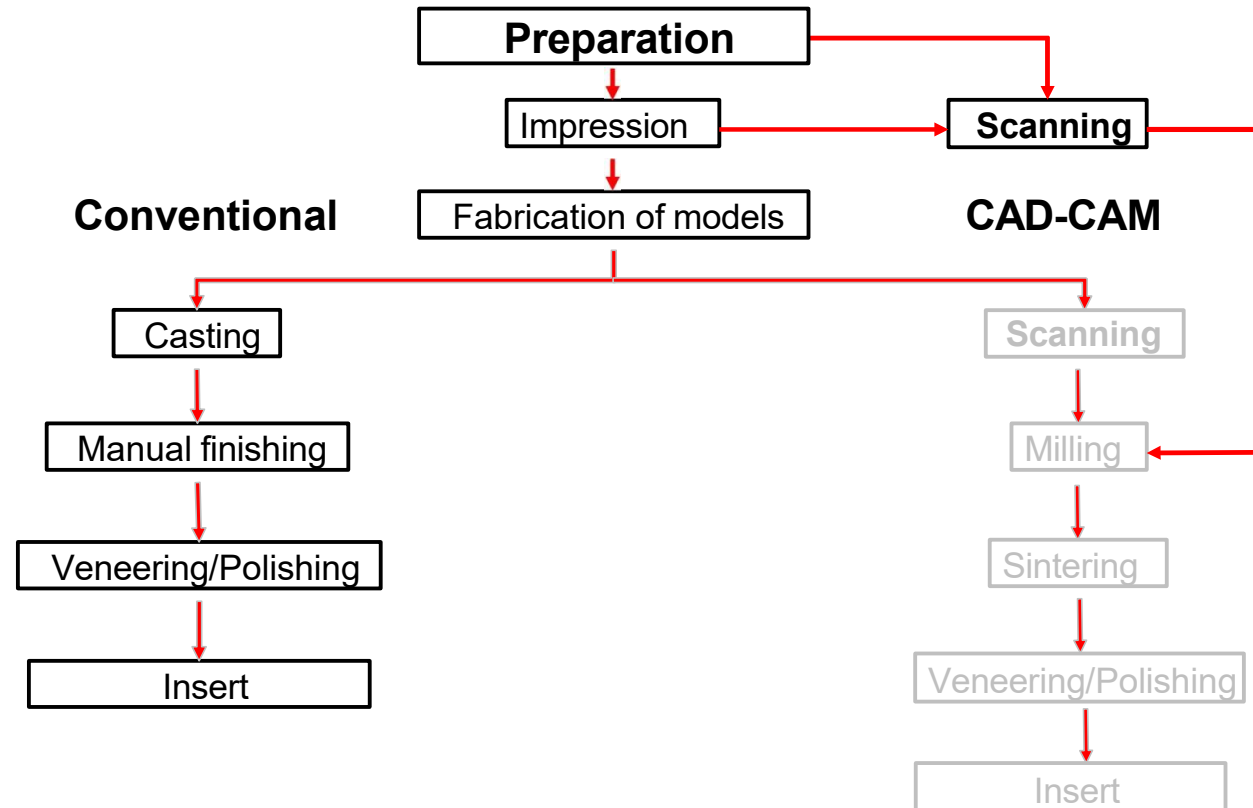
# CLINICAL PROCEDURES

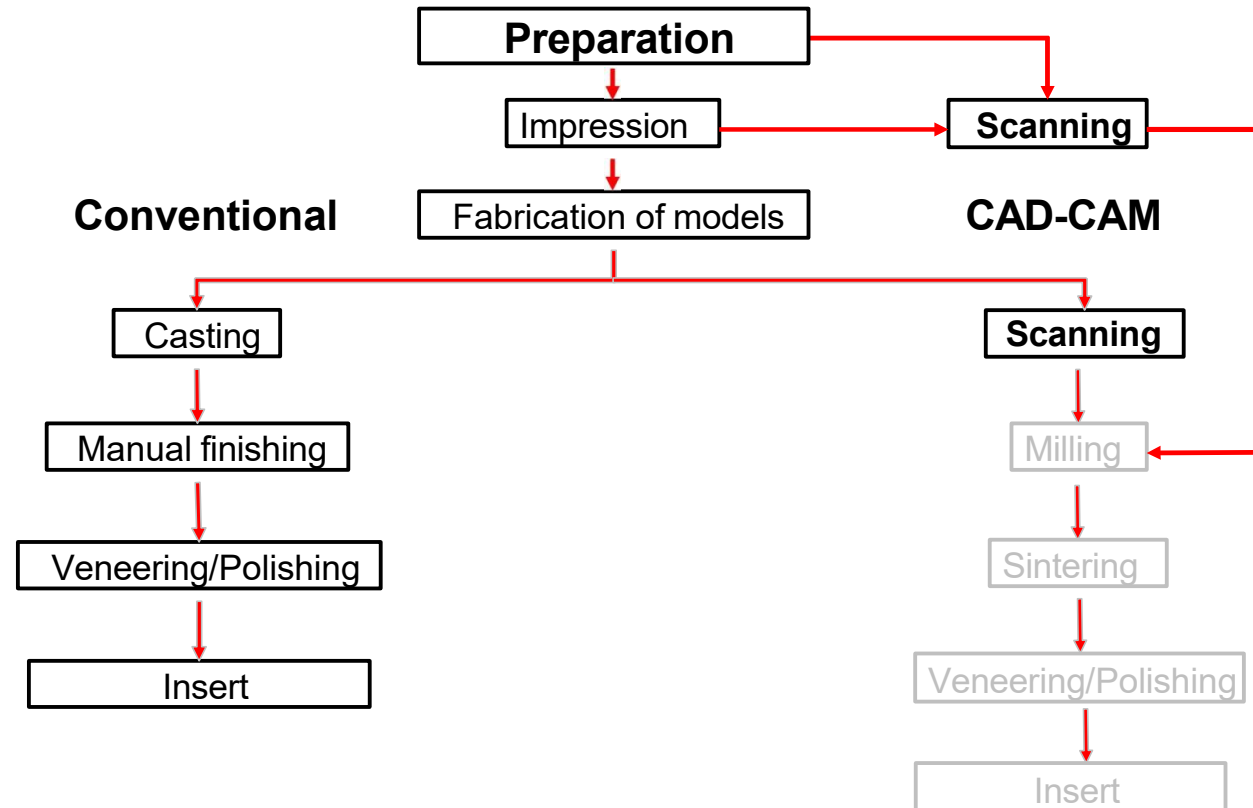


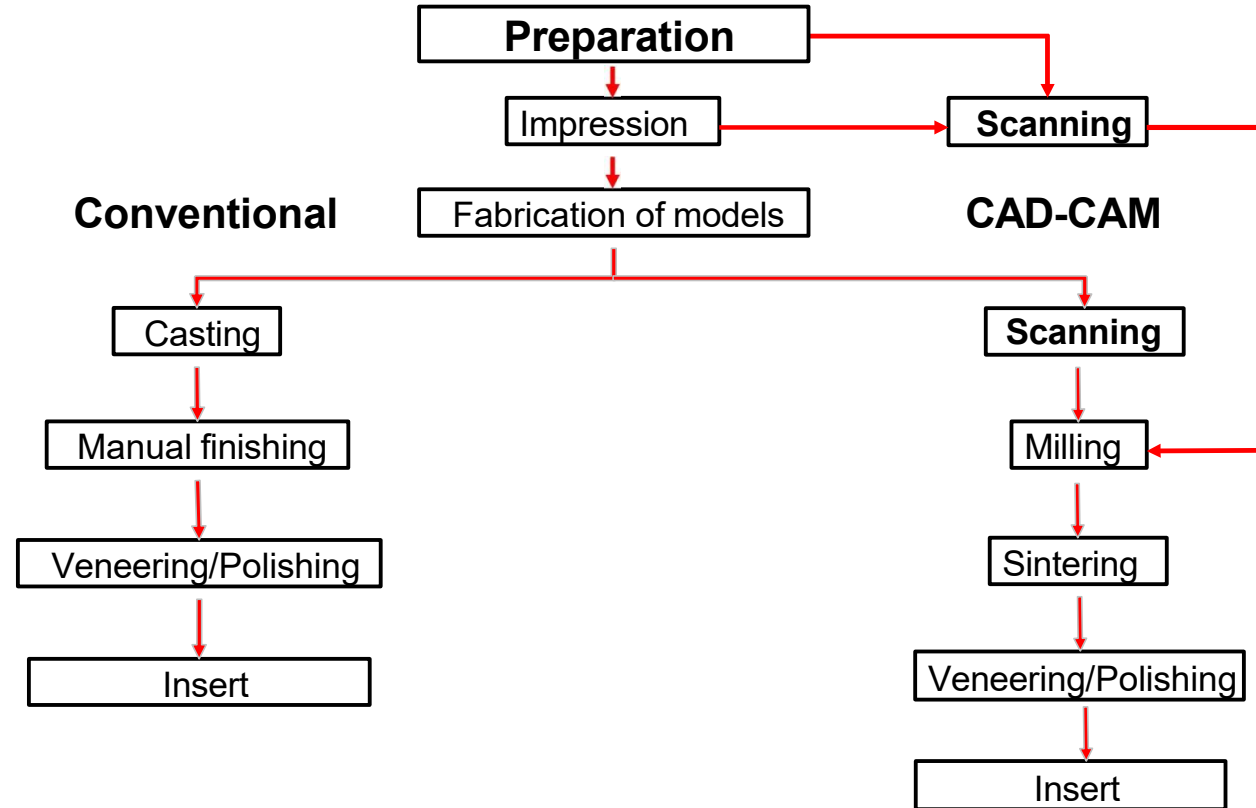




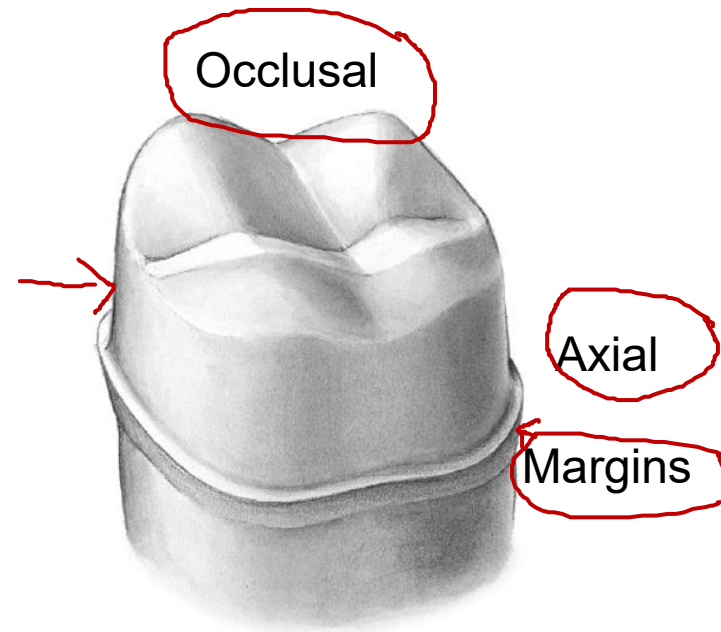








# Crown Preparation Terminology



**FIGURE 8-25** ■ The completed preparation is characterized by a smooth, even chamfer margin; a 6-degree taper; and gradual transitions between all prepared surfaces.



## Materials:

- All ceramic
  - Zirconia or Glassy Ceramics (eg Lithium Sillicate or Lithium Disillicate)
- Metal
  - Varying alloys
- Porcelain Fused to Metal (PFM)

Each material may require different preparations.



## Margins:

- Supra-gingival of subgingival
- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
  - Bevel
  - Chamfer
  - Shoulder
  - Shoulder with bevel

## Supragingival Margins

- Easily prepared
- Easier to take impressions
- Easily maintained by patient
- Easily evaluated at recalls
- Preserve periodontium

## Subgingival Margins

### Indications

- Subgingival dental caries, erosion, fracture line or restoration
- Additional retention is needed
- Aesthetic margins
- Coverage of root surface
- Modification of axial contour



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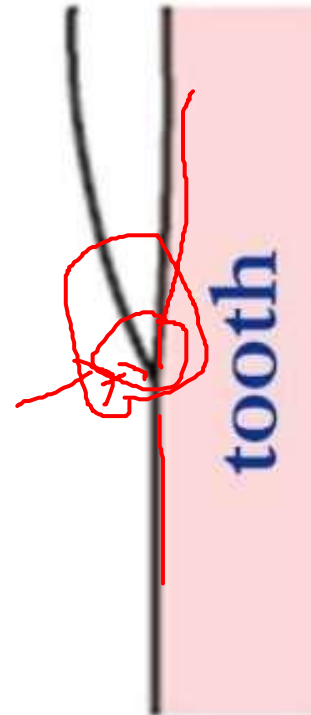
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## Margins:

- Supra-gingival or subgingival
- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
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  - Shoulder with bevel



## Advantages:

- Conservation of tooth structure

## Disadvantages:

- Fail to provide adequate bulk at margins

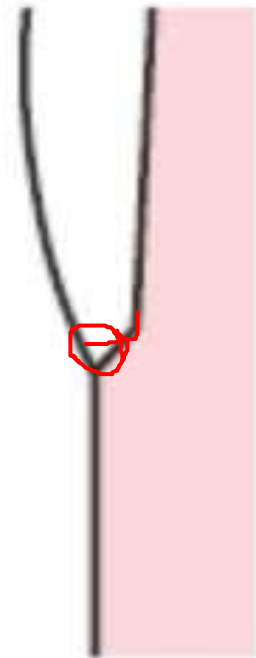
**CONTRA-INDICATED IN MOST CASES!**



## Margins:

- Supra-gingival of subgingival
- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
  - **Bevel**
  - Chamfer
  - Shoulder
  - Shoulder with bevel

**Commonly for cast restorations**



## Advantages:

- Allow the margin of the crown to be burnished against tooth structure
- Protect the unprepared tooth structure from chipping by removing unsupported enamel
- May reduce marginal discrepancy when complete crown fails to seat completely. (But doesn't work for oversized crown)

## Disadvantages:

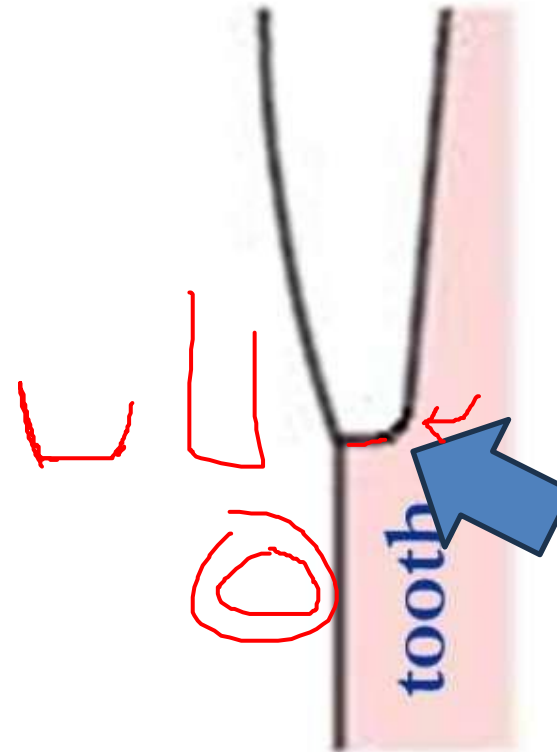
- Can lead to subgingival extension



## Margins:

- Supra-gingival of subgingival
- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
  - Bevel
  - Chamfer
  - **Shoulder**
  - Shoulder with bevel

**Can be used for all materials.**



## Advantages:

- Easy to prepare and finish well
- Easy to judge on impressions

## Disadvantages:

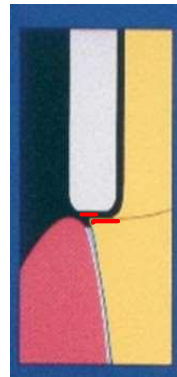
- More aggressive preparation

Internal angle is  
ROUNDED NOT  
SHARP 90 degrees.

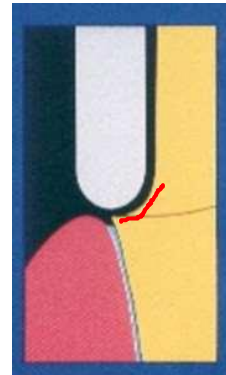


## Margins:

- Supra-gingival of subgingival
- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
  - Bevel
  - **Chamfer**
  - Shoulder
  - Shoulder with bevel



Shoulder



Chamfer



## Advantages:

- Conserves tooth structure whilst providing distinct finish lines
- Easy to read in impressions

**Commonly used for metal,  
or ceramic crowns**

Use a tapered diamond bur with round tip!

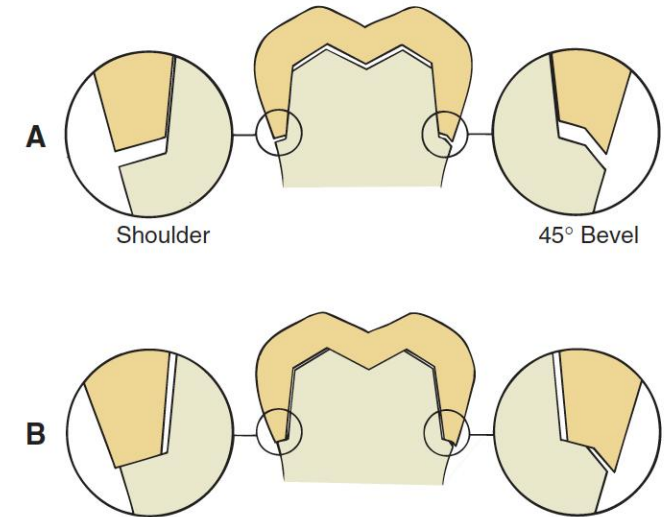


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- Types of margins
  - Feather edge
  - Bevel
  - Chamfer
  - Shoulder
  - **Shoulder with bevel**

Sometimes used for PFM crowns with a metal labial margin (hidden in the sulcus). But a shoulder/chamber is preferred for biologic and aesthetic considerations

**Uncommonly used.**



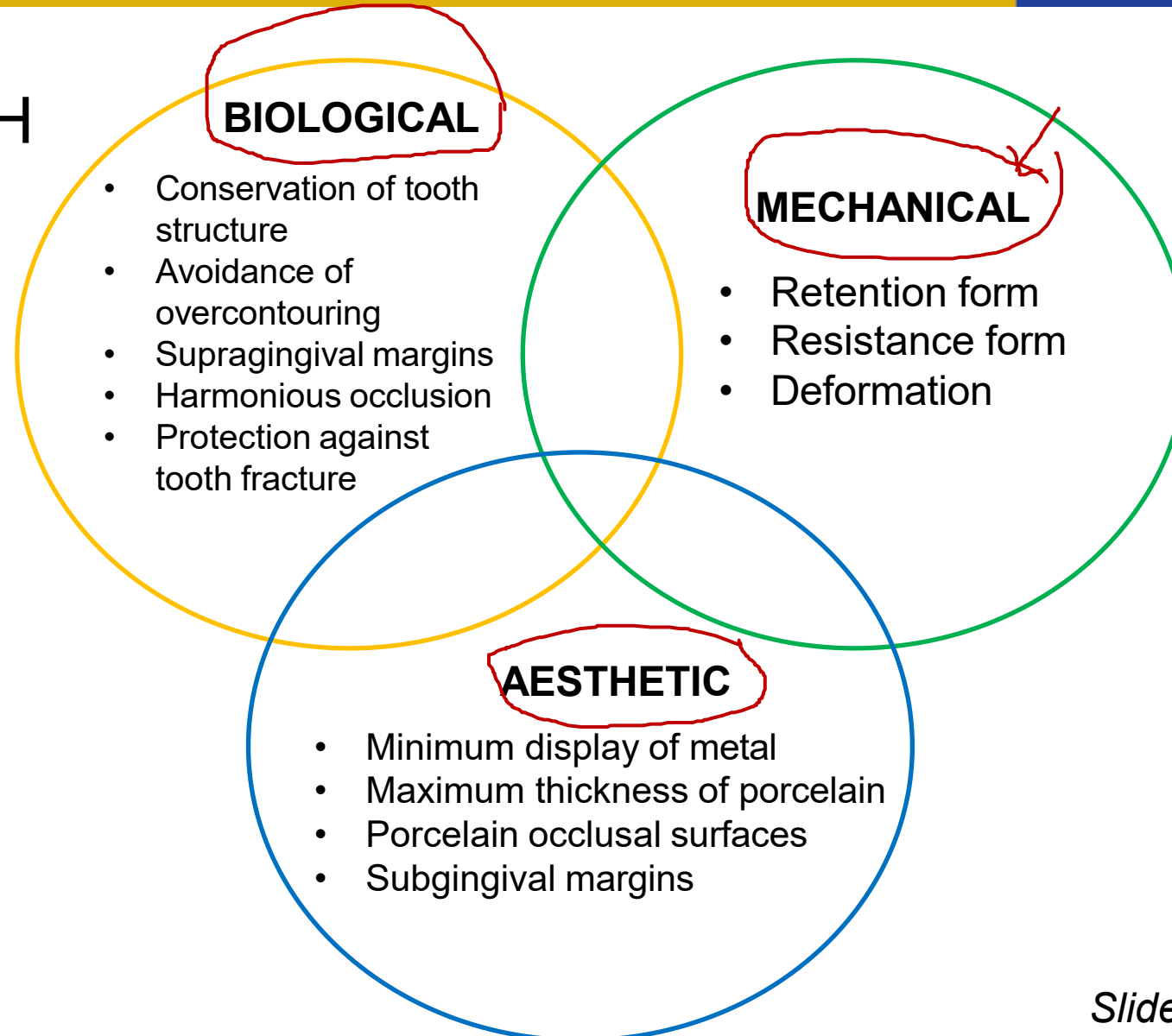
Properly seated castings should have minimal marginal gap widths.

**FIGURE 7-25** ■ Effect on marginal fit of beveling the gingival margin. **A**, If the internal cross section of a crown is the same as or less than that of the prepared tooth, a 45-degree bevel decreases the marginal discrepancy by 70%. **B**, If the internal diameter is slightly larger than the prepared tooth, beveling increases the marginal discrepancy. In practice, crowns are made slightly larger than the prepared tooth to allow for the luting agent.

# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

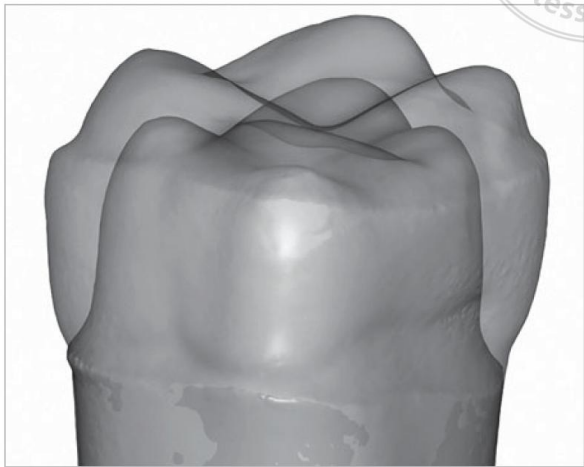
- Principles of tooth preparation
- Partial or complete preparation



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

- Principles of tooth preparation
- Partial or complete preparation



**Fig 1** Approximately 70% of the volume of the clinical crown of a posterior tooth is removed for a full-crown preparation (internal contour), whereas only about 30% is lost for an occlusal onlay, unless more tissue has already been lost (see Fig 3b).

## BIOLOGICAL

- Conservation of tooth structure
- Avoidance of overcontouring
- Supragingival margins
- Harmonious occlusion
- Protection against tooth fracture

## MECHANICAL

- Retention form
- Resistance form
- Deformation

Occlusal onlays as a modern treatment concept for the reconstruction of severely worn occlusal surfaces

Article in *Quintessence international* (Berlin, Germany: 1985) · January 2018

DOI: 10.3290/j.qi.a40482

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**Daniel Edelhoff**

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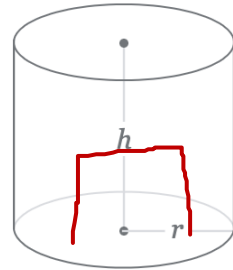
# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Solve for  
volume ▾

$$V \approx 785.4$$

$r$  Radius

$h$  Height



Solution

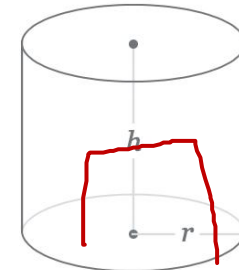
$$V = \pi r^2 h = \pi \cdot 5^2 \cdot 10 \approx 785.39816$$

Solve for  
volume ▾

$$V \approx 402.12$$

$r$  Radius

$h$  Height



Solution

$$V = \pi r^2 h = \pi \cdot 4^2 \cdot 8 \approx 402.12386$$

$$V = \pi r^2 h$$

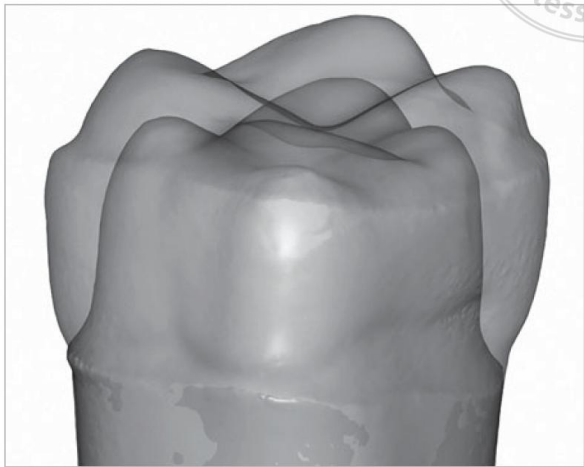
Obvious limitations for this model such as tooth is not a cylinder shape, and tooth has a pulp chamber resulting in this simplified model giving us an underestimate.

This represents almost  
50% decrease in volume!!  
Even worse if you include  
a pulp chamber space!

# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

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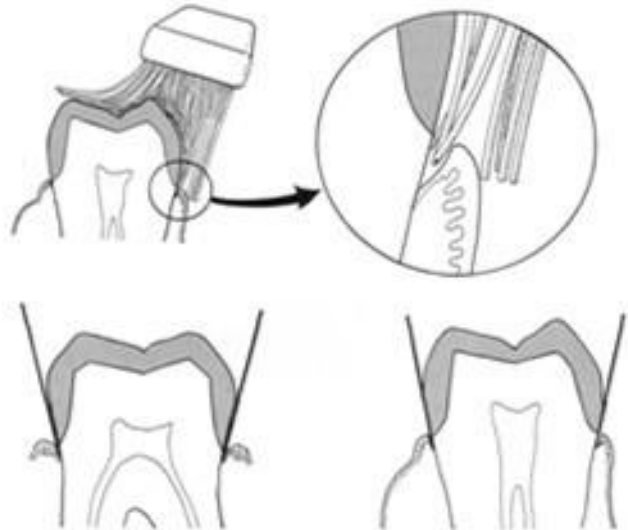
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# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

- Principles of tooth preparation
- Partial or complete preparation



### BIOLOGICAL

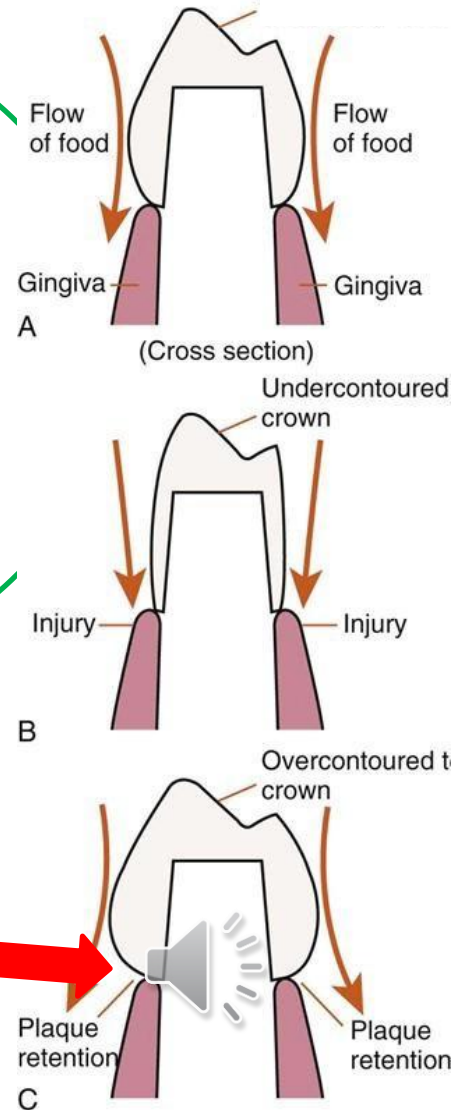
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### AESTHETIC

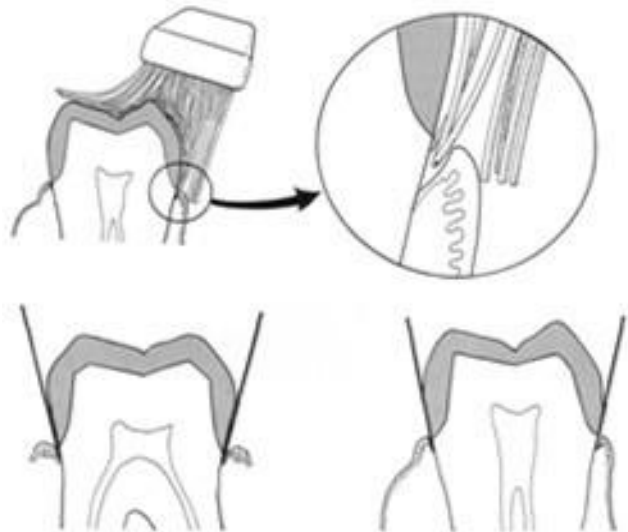
- Minimum display of metal
- Maximum thickness of porcelain
- Porcelain occlusal surfaces
- Subgingival margins



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

- Principles of tooth preparation
- Partial or complete preparation



### BIOLOGICAL

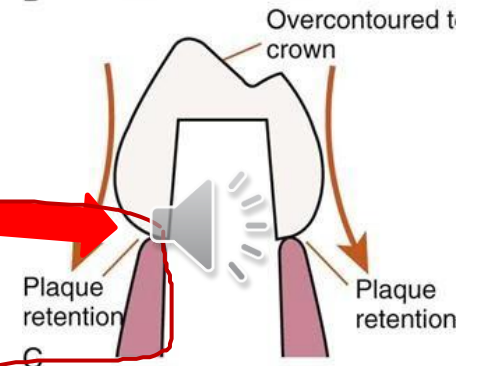
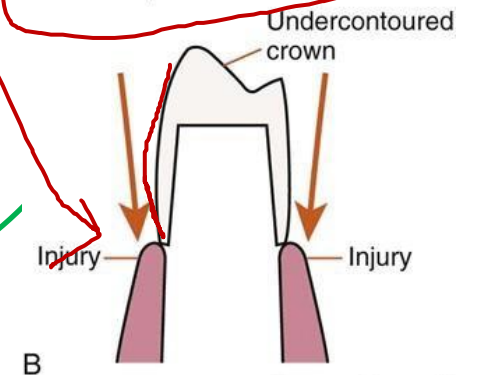
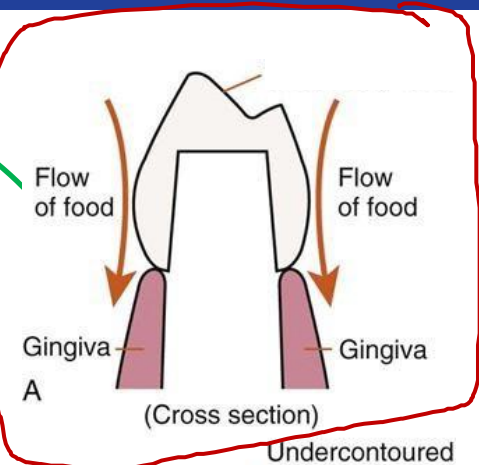
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### AESTHETIC

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- Maximum thickness of porcelain
- Porcelain occlusal surfaces
- Subgingival margins



# Principles of Tooth Preparations



Sub-gingival preparation- aesthetic, BUT.....



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

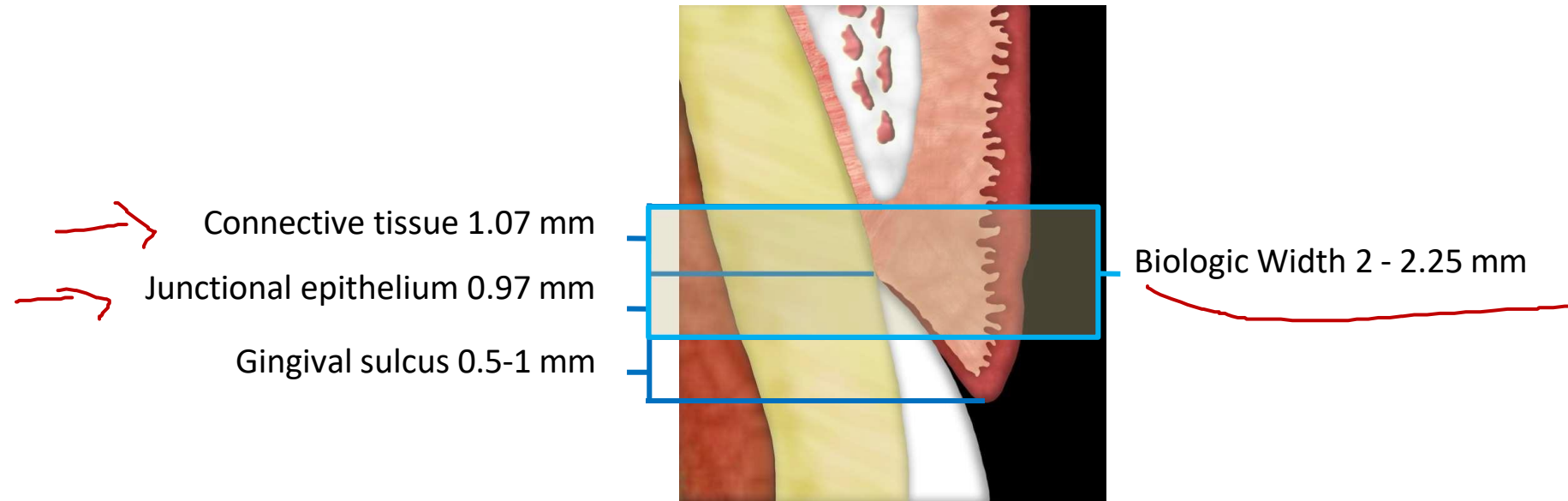
We risk violation of **biologic width!**



KNOW THIS WORD!



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

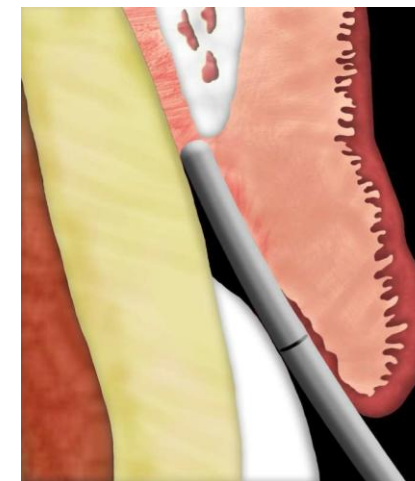
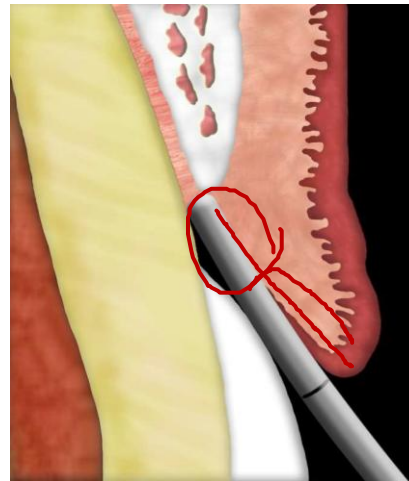
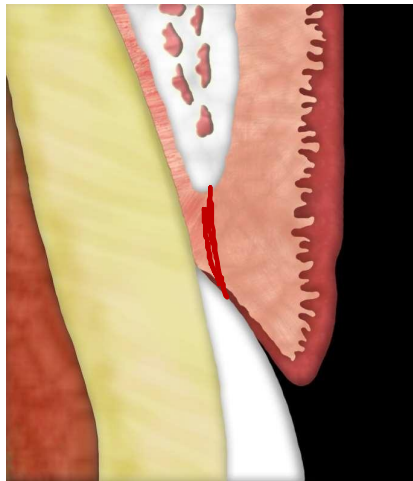


## Margin location

- ▶ If the margins has to be subgingival it should only be placed intracrevicularly
- ▶ Maximum depth around 0.7mm



# Principles of Tooth Preparations



**Take Home Message:** If you place a margin within 2mm of the crestal bone you will get inflammation, followed by bone loss as the biological width tries to re-establish itself

Normal Crest  
3 mm (4 approx)

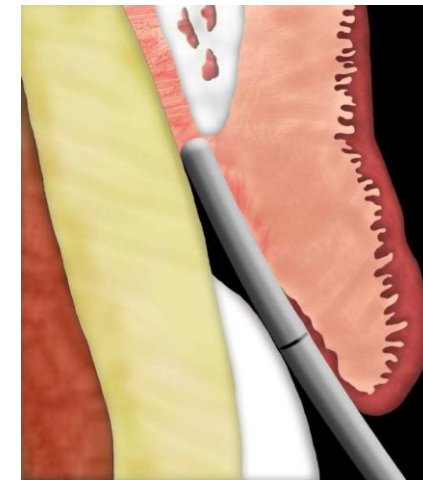
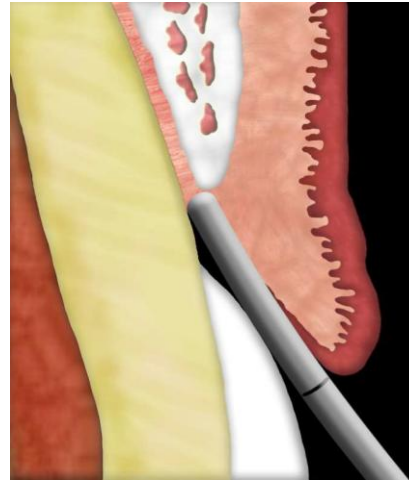
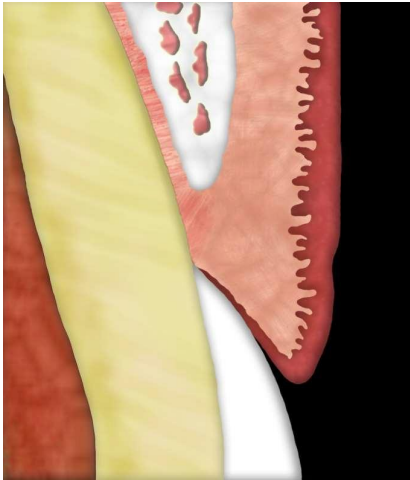
High Crest  
< 3 mm (4 approx)

Low Crest  
> 3 mm (4 approx)

Want to know more about biologic width? Read:  
*Mulla SA, Patil A, Mali S, Jain A, Sharma D, Jaiswal HC, Saoji HA, Jakhar A, Talekar S, Singh S. Exploring the Biologic Width in Dentistry: A Comprehensive Narrative Review. Cureus. 2023 Jul 18;15(7).*



# Principles of Tooth Preparations



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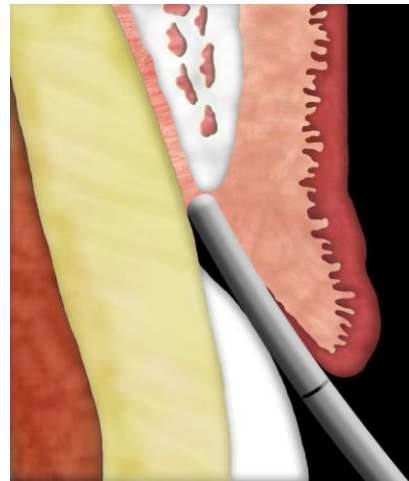
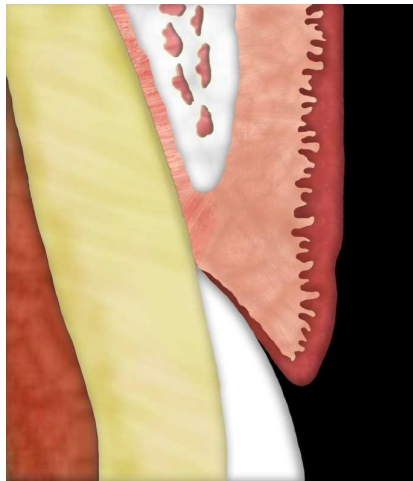
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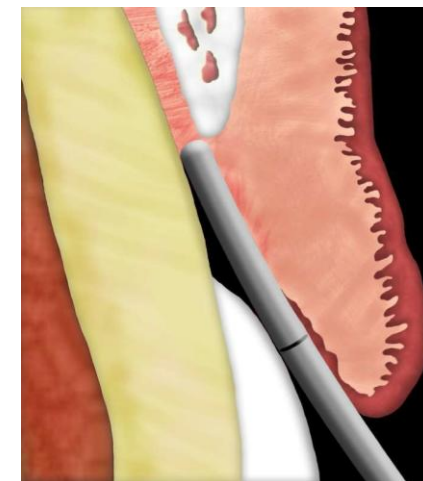
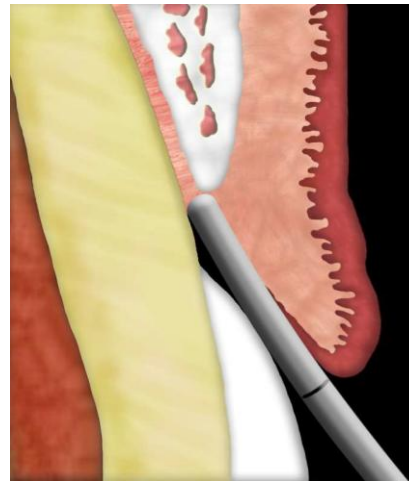
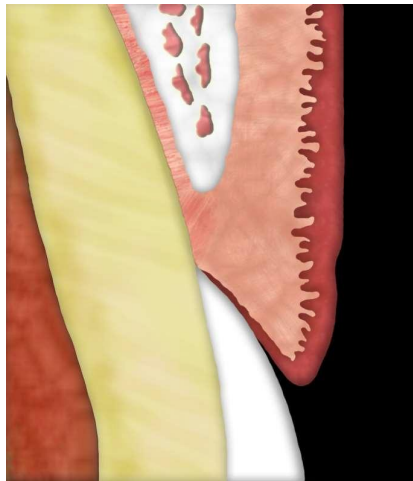
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*Mulla SA, Patil A, Mali S, Jain A, Sharma D, Jaiswal HC, Saoji HA, Jakhar A, Talekar S, Singh S. Exploring the Biologic Width in Dentistry: A Comprehensive Narrative Review. Cureus. 2023 Jul 18;15(7).*



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

The margins of the restoration can be positioned 0.5 mm below the gingival tissue crest if the probing depth of the sulcus is 1.5 mm or less. If the sulcus depth is more than 1.5mm, then the margins of the restoration should be inserted in the sulcus at a depth that is half its probing depth. Lastly, a gingivectomy may be enacted to extend the tooth and design a 1.5 mm sulcus if the probing depth of the sulcus is greater than 2 mm.

**Take Home Message:** If you place a margin within 2mm of the crestal bone you will get inflammation, followed by bone loss as the biological width tries to re-establish itself



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

We risk violation of **biologic width!**



KNOW THIS WORD!



Take Home Message: If you place a margin within 2mm of the crestal bone you will get inflammation followed by bone loss as the biological width tries to re-establish itself



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

## ABUTMENT TOOTH

- Principles of tooth preparation
- Partial or complete preparation

### BIOLOGICAL

- Conservation of tooth structure
- Avoidance of overcontouring
- **Supragingival margins**
- Harmonious occlusion
- Protection against tooth fracture

### MECHANICAL

- Retention form
- Resistance form
- Deformation

### AESTHETIC

- Minimum display of metal
- Maximum thickness of porcelain
- Porcelain occlusal surfaces
- Subgingival margins



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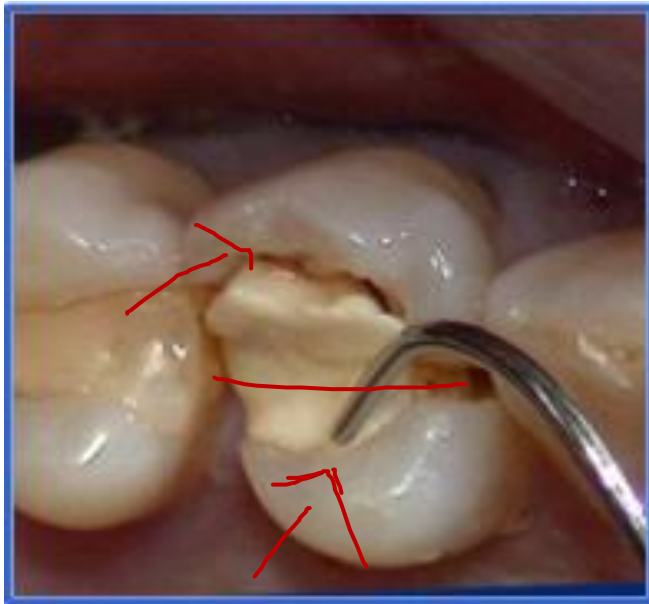
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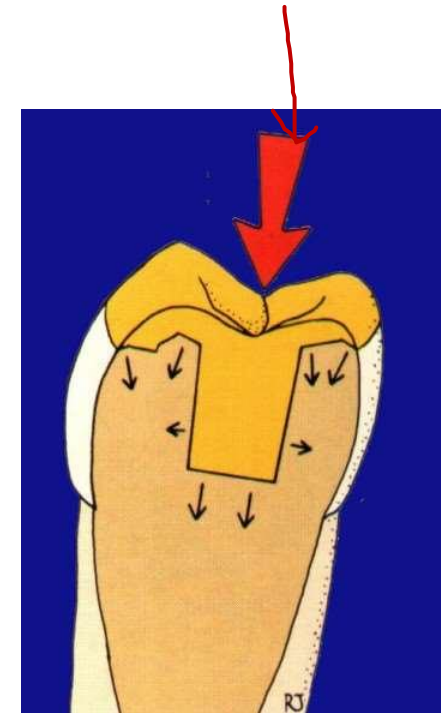
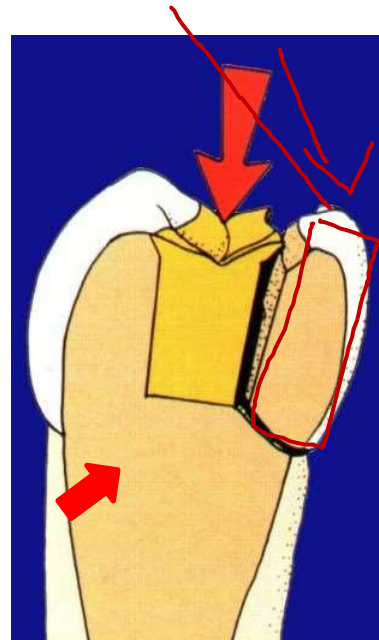


# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Cuspal Protection: Coverage of one or more cusps by a indirect or direct restorative material.



Fracture/Uncontrollable tooth structure loss

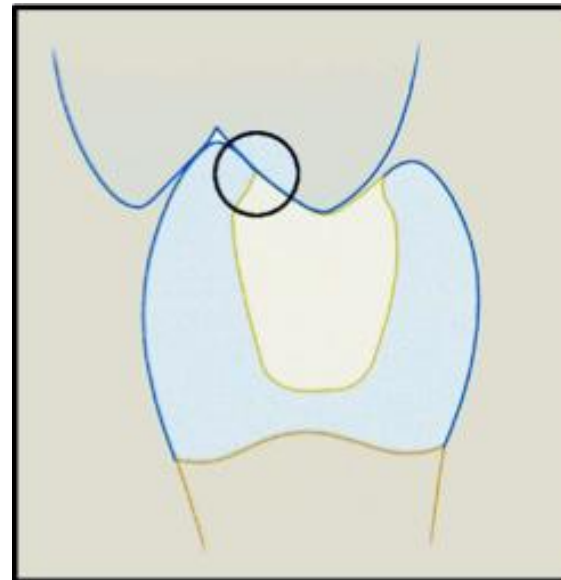
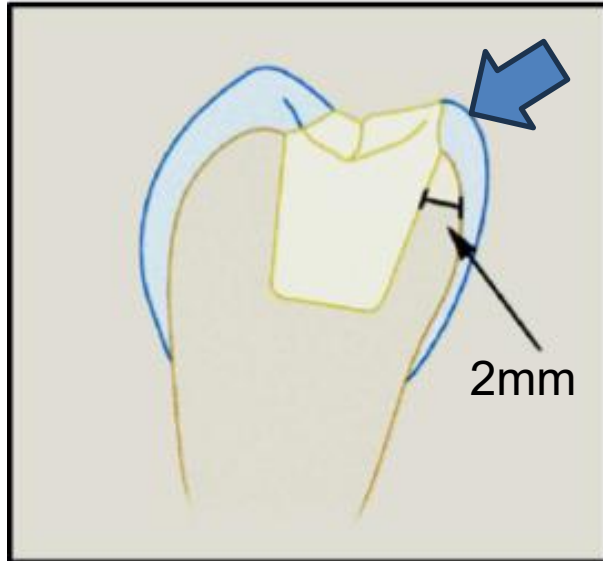


Redistribution of stresses



## During preparation:

- Removal of tooth structure less than 2mm thick
- Removal of any low quality/undermined enamel on the cusps



Also avoid occlusal  
contacts on the margin of  
the preparations

---



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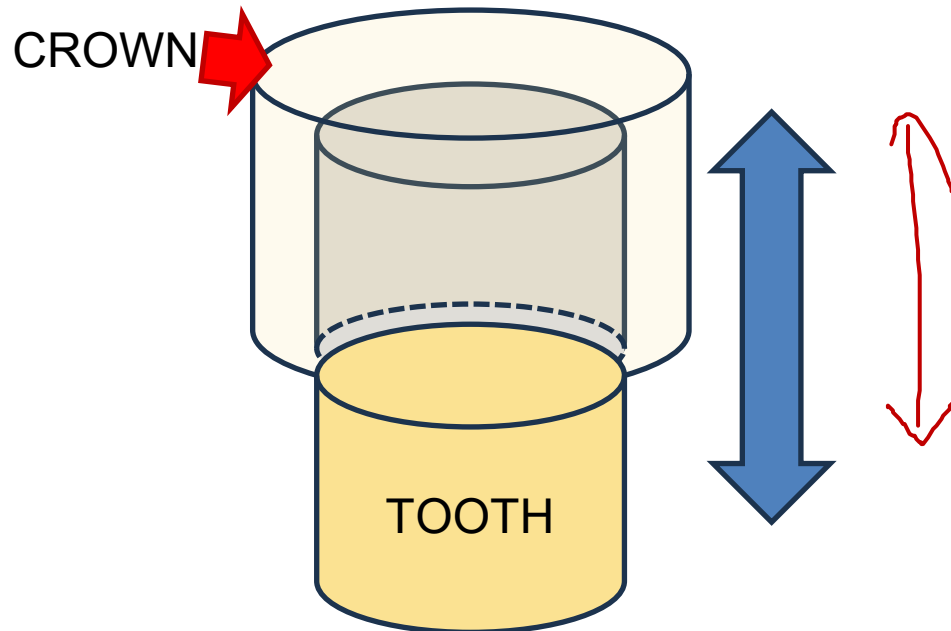
# Principles of Tooth Preparations



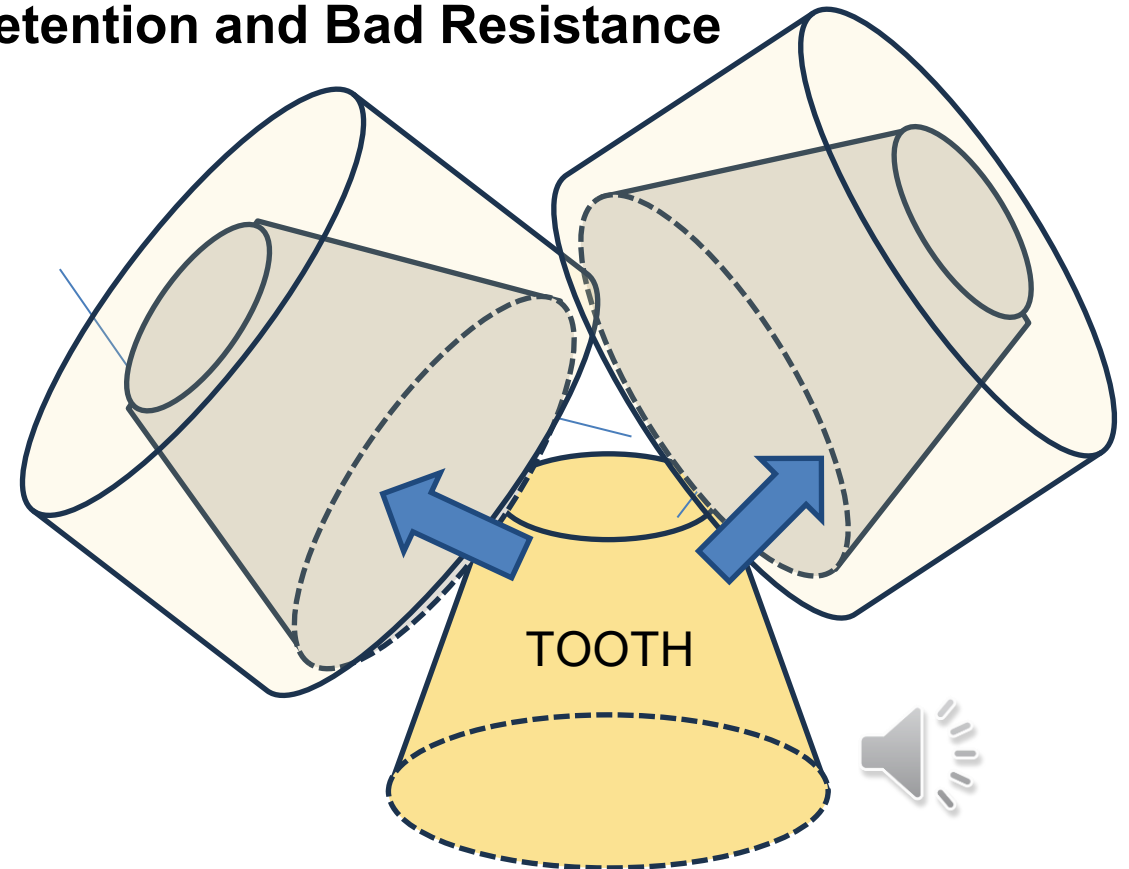
**Retention:** prevents removal of restoration/crown from coming off the prepared tooth when a force is applied parallel to the path of insertion.

**Resistance:** prevents dislodging of restoration/crown when apical or oblique forces applied, and stops movement of restoration during chewing.

## Bad Retention and Bad Resistance



**Good Retention But Bad Resistance**

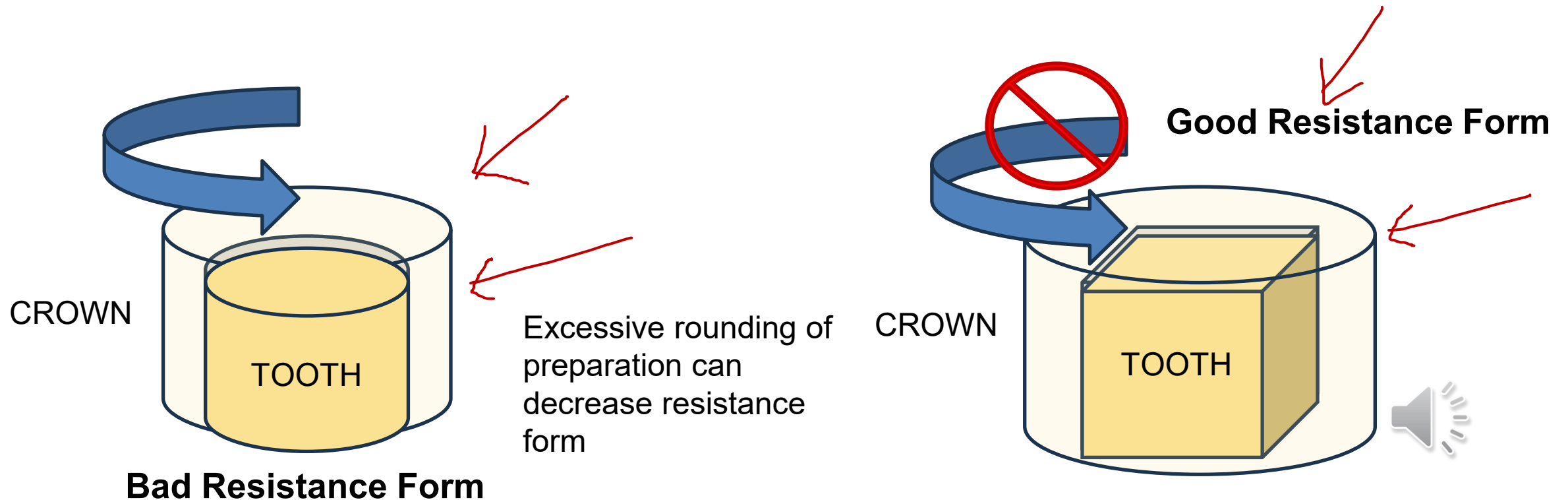


# Principles of Tooth Preparations



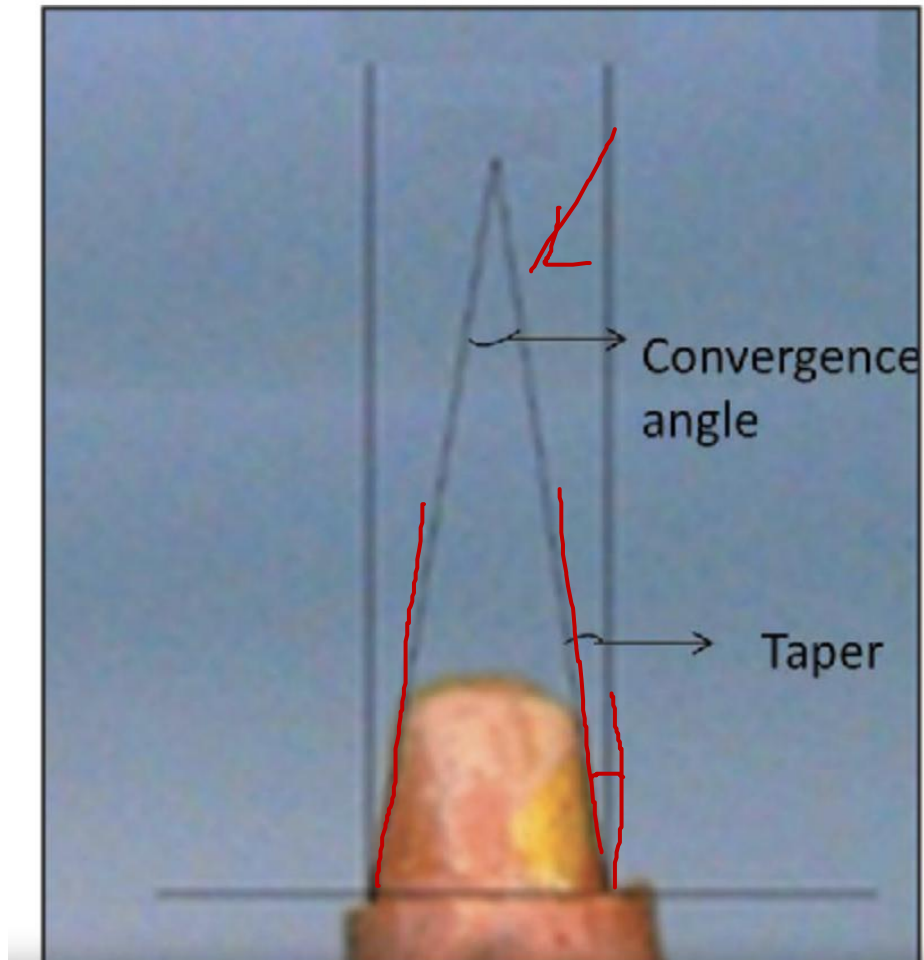
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# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Factors influencing Retention and Resistance:  
**Taper** and Length of axial walls



## Fundamental of Fixed Prosthodontics

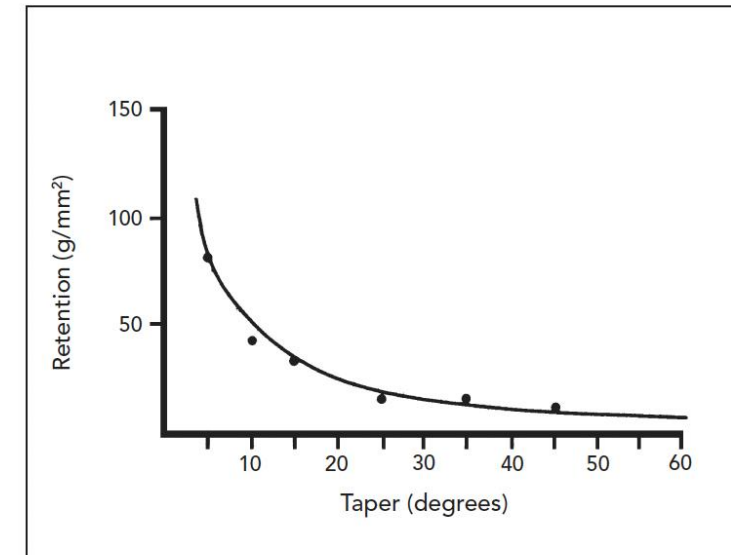
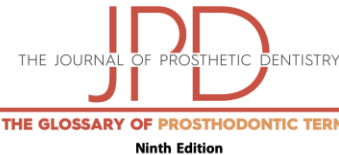


Fig 9-4 As taper increases, retention decreases. (Modified from Jorgensen<sup>4</sup> with permission.)

**Evaluation of the degree of taper and convergence angle of full ceramo-metal crown preparations by different specialists centers at Assir Region, Saudi Arabia**

# Principles of Tooth Preparations



**convergence angle** \kon-vûr'jens äng'gel\: the angle, measured in degrees as viewed in a given plane, formed by the axial walls when a tooth or machined surface on a metal or ceramic material is prepared for a fixed dental prosthesis; *Editorial note for usage*: the term *total occlusal convergence* applies to the angle formed between two opposing axial walls; the term *taper* applies to the angle formed between an axial wall and the path of placement onto the tooth or machined surfaces of a metal or ceramic material; *syn*, *angle of convergence*, TOTAL OCCLUSAL CONVERGENCE; *comp*, TAPER

**taper**: in dentistry, the angle, measured in degrees as viewed in a given plane, formed between an external wall and the path of placement of a tooth preparation or machined surfaces on a metal or ceramic material when prepared for fixed dental prosthesis; *comp*, CONVERGENCE ANGLE, TOTAL OCCLUSAL CONVERGENCE ANGLE



# Preparations


Google

ideal taper preparation

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Recommended taper is 3-12 degree. According to Schillinberg 6 degree is recommended. Minimum taper that is necessary to insure the absence of undercuts -12 degree. A taper or total convergence of 16 degrees has been proposed as being achievable clinically while still affording adequate retention.

 Dentosphere : World of Dentistry  
<https://www.dentaldevotee.com> > 2020/06 > minimum-a...

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Google

is **not** your best friend!

OF PROSTHETIC DENTISTRY

OF PROSTHODONTIC TERMS

Ninth Edition

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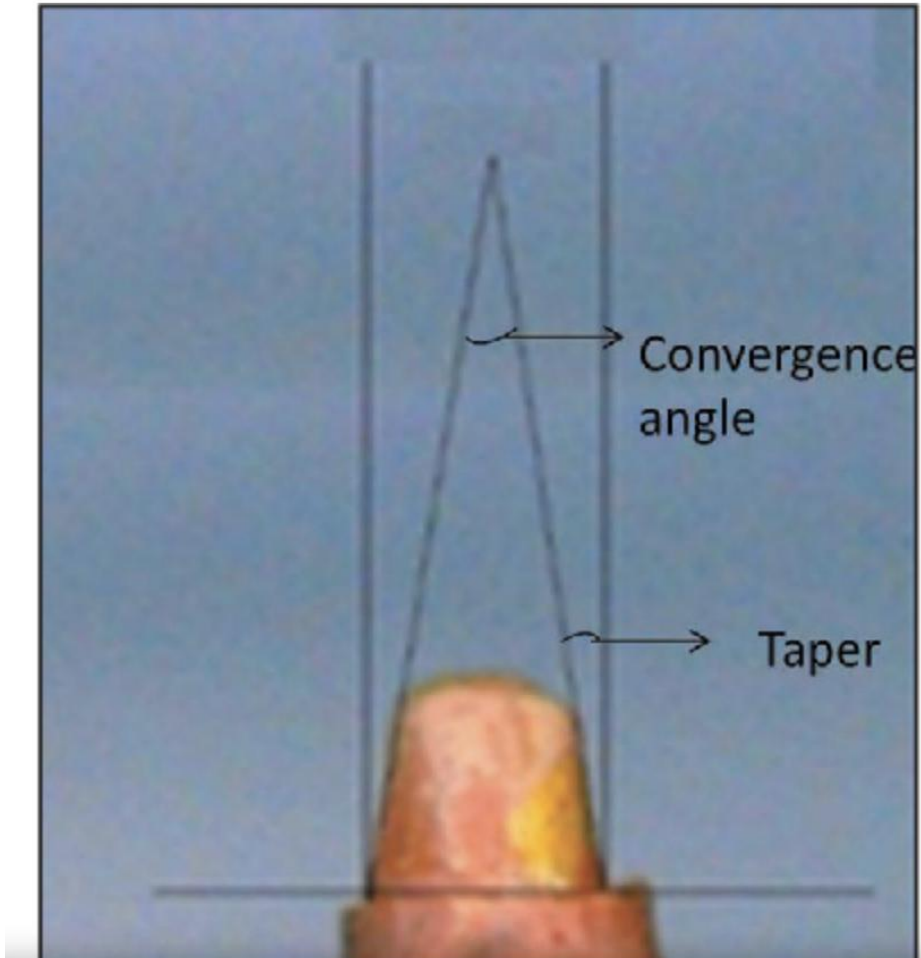
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# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Factors influencing Retention and Resistance:  
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## Fundamental of Fixed Prosthodontics

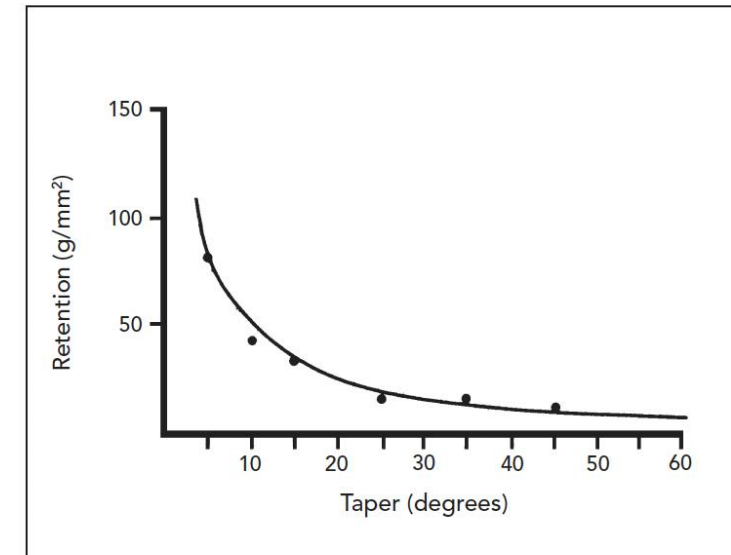


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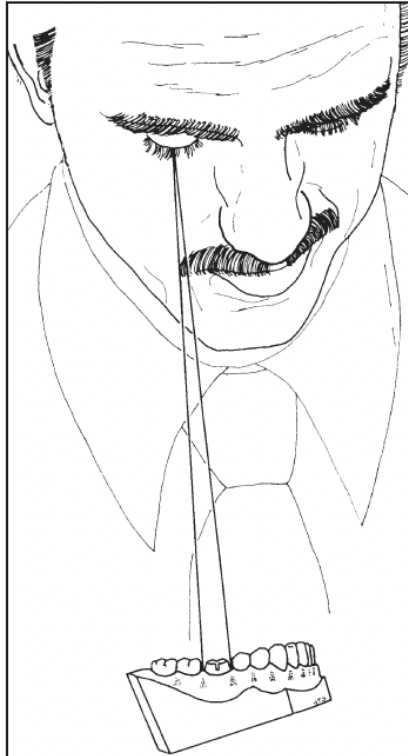
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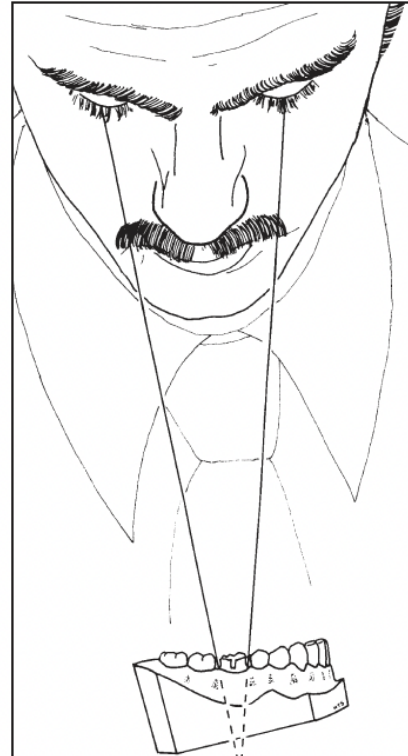
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**



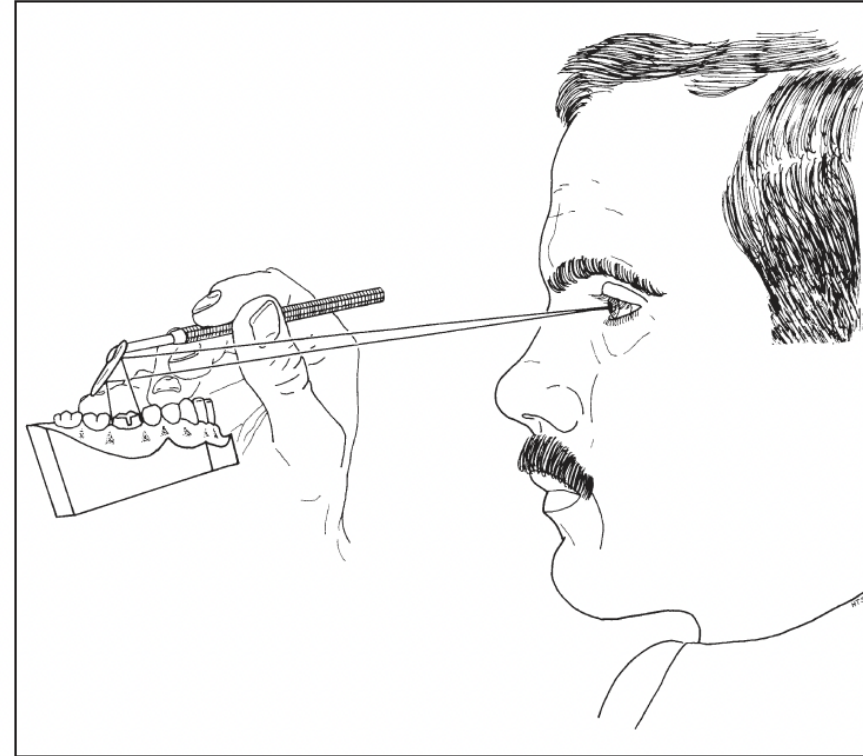
Oral Health Centre  
of Western Australia



**Fig 9-13** To examine a preparation for undercuts, one eye should be closed.



**Fig 9-14** If both eyes are open when the preparation is viewed, undercuts may remain undetected.

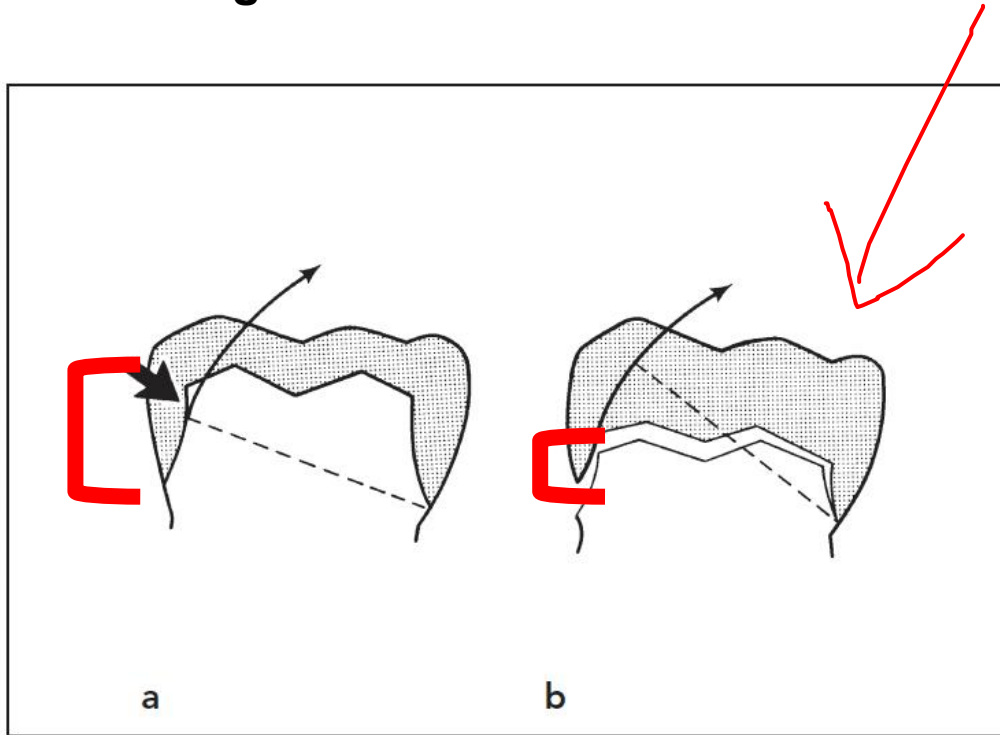


**Fig 9-15** Preparations in the mouth are viewed through a mouth mirror using one eye.

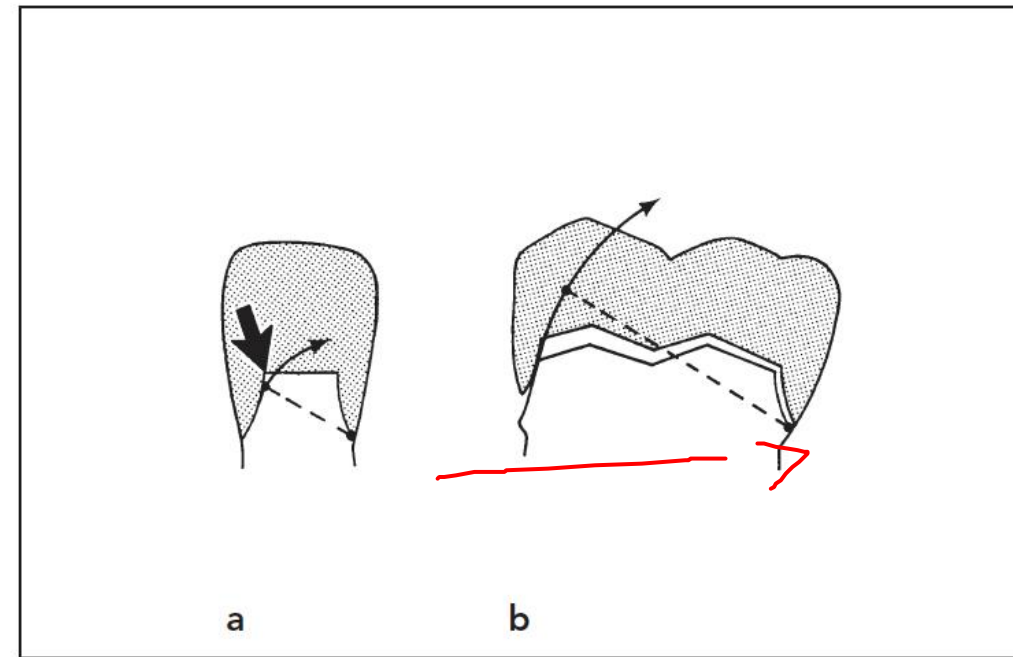


# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Factors influencing Retention and Resistance:  
Taper and **Length of axial walls**



**Fig 9-9** The preparation with longer walls (a) interferes with the tipping displacement of the restoration better than the short preparation (b).



**Fig 9-10** A preparation on a tooth with a smaller diameter (a) resists pivoting movements better than a preparation of equal length on a tooth of larger diameter (b).

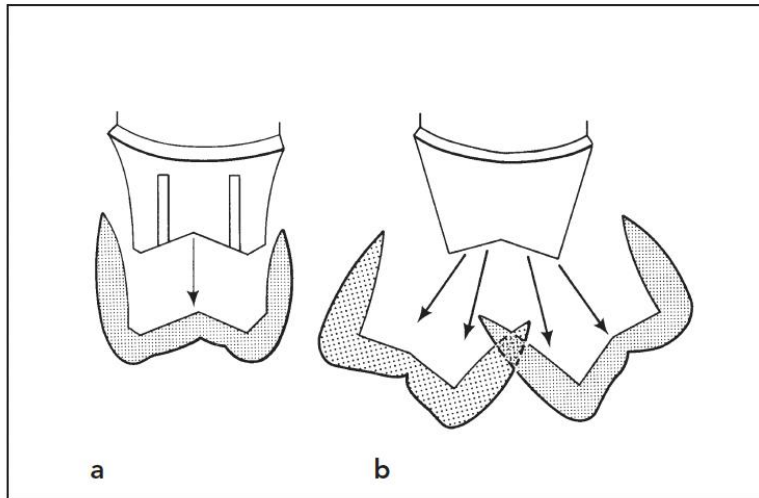


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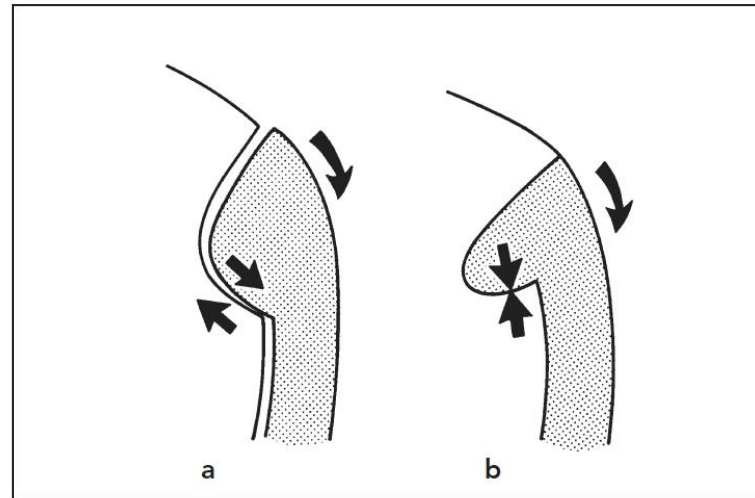
Factors influencing Retention and Resistance:  
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What can we do to increase retention/resistance?

- Grooves and boxes



**Fig 9-6** (a) By limiting the paths of withdrawal, retention is improved. (b) A preparation with unlimited freedom of displacement is much less retentive.



**Fig 9-7** (a) The walls of a groove that meet the axial wall at an oblique angle do not provide the necessary resistance. (b) The walls of a groove must be perpendicular to rotating forces to resist displacement.

**BUT USE WITH CARE!**



# Principles of Tooth Preparations

Other factors that influence retention and resistance:

- a. Magnitude of the dislodging force
- b. Geometry of tooth preparation (**MOST IMPORTANT, YOU DIRECT IMPACT THIS**)
- c. Roughness of fitting surface of restoration
- d. Material being cemented
- e. Properties of luting agent



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Any questions? Please email me,  
or come up to me in CSSL.

