



# Top 10 Things You Must Know

Before Choosing Your  
Family's Orthodontist

## When Should My Child Have an Exam?

Age 7 is when the American  
Association of Orthodontics  
recommends an exam.

### 1. Is the Doctor a Specialist?

Orthodontists receive an additional 2-3 years of specialized education, beyond dental school, to learn the proper way to straighten and align teeth. Orthodontists practice orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics exclusively.



## 2. Is your orthodontist Board Certified?

Only 1 out of 6 orthodontists has gone through the rigorous testing of the American Board of Orthodontists. These orthodontists have proven to the board that their finished cases have met the highest standards in the world. Only board certified orthodontists can display the Diplomate logo of the ABO.



### 3. Does the doctor use bonded brackets instead of bands around the teeth?

In surveying our patients, we've found one of the most uncomfortable aspects of getting braces is having spacers and bands placed. We've virtually eliminated this practice from our office, opting instead to use small, sleek brackets that are bonded to each tooth instead of the older metal bands.

### 4. Does the doctor remove braces in less than 24 months on 90% or more of their patients?

Like Southwest Airlines... we are obsessed with on-time departures. We track our statistics on treatment completion very closely. Just ask one of our team members -we're excited to share our results with you!

## 5. Does the doctor use the latest technology for improved comfort and performance?

We use systems and techniques that are tried and tested... just not tested on someone in *the last century*! All kidding aside, today's orthodontic technology is super high-tech, making it easier than ever for you to avoid a lifetime of crooked teeth.

## 6. Does the quoted fee include all x-rays and records during the course of the treatment?

Orthodontic records like x-rays, photographs, and impressions of the teeth are needed before and sometimes during the course of treatment. In our office we do not charge you for x-rays or other records that are needed during the course of the treatment. We consider this part of your treatment that you have paid for.

## 7. Does the Quoted Fee Include Multiple Retainers and Free Retainer Checks for Life?

The most important part to achieving a straight smile is keeping it that way. The retainers and the retainer check-ups are two of the most important parts of orthodontic treatment. Keeping your teeth straight for the rest of your life requires continued retainer wear and check-ups to make sure everything is staying where the orthodontist put it. Having extra retainers help ensure the investment in your smile will not be lost.



## 8. Does the practice charge for emergency appointments?

Some discomfort can be anticipated with braces. Adjustment of poking wires and palliative care to place our patients in comfort are provided free of charge. Whether it is during normal business hours or after-hours or on week-ends. You will not have to pay extra for our office going the extra mile.



# More Questions to Ask Your Orthodontic Specialist

## 9. Does the practice offer flexible financing?

As a service to our patients, we offer a number of affordable payment options. Zero-down, no-interest payment plans are available to help those patients who really want braces, but cannot afford a large down payment. For your convenience, our office accepts most insurance and will work hard to help you receive the maximum benefit from your dental insurance. And if you have the ability to pay for your treatment in full we always offer a bookkeeping courtesy discount. Orthodontics is a wonderful investment, with life-long returns.



## Where Can I Get More Information?

Call your local dental society for a recommendation to an orthodontic specialist or visit [www.Braces.org](http://www.Braces.org) for more helpful information by The American Association of Orthodontists.

## 10. Does the practice make my child feel special?

We strive to make each visit to our office something to smile about! Orthodontic treatment can sometimes be long, boring, and sometimes painful. In our office, we are continually striving to improve the experience that you or your child has during their orthodontic treatment. Everyone in our office realizes just how special each and every patient in our office truly is. We appreciate your suggestions on how we can continue to improve.

