



What are veneers?

Veneers are thin layers of tooth-colored composite resin or porcelain that are applied over teeth to improve their shape, color and overall appearance. The preparation for a tooth to have a veneer applied varies for the type and brand of veneer, from slight scoring of the tooth to grinding and reshaping before application of the veneer.

What are the different types of veneers?

	Composite Resin Veneers	Porcelain Veneers
Appearance	Improve appearance of teeth, will need to be polished over time	Are translucent, thus better mimic the look of the translucent enamel of real teeth
If chipped or broken	Often can be repaired	Must be replaced
Lifespan	5–7 years	10–15 years
Dentist visits	Usually completed in one dentist visit. (Composite resin veneers are made chairside by the dentist.)	Usually completed in two dentist visits. (Porcelain veneers are made in a lab by a dental technician using a dental impression.)
Staining	Susceptible to staining	Resistant to staining
Expense	More costly than bleaching, less costly than porcelain veneers	More costly than composite resin veneers

What are other treatment options?

Because any preparation/grinding of the tooth is irreversible, treatment options are limited should the veneers not result in the look you want. Usually, crowns are the only other option if veneers do not provide the desired aesthetics. Always speak with your dentist about the right treatment option for you, and remember to consult your benefits information to see if the treatment is covered.

For information on your dental plan, or to find more “Dental Health 101” tips, visit us online at www.unitedconcordia.com.