

Dentures at Core Dental Carrum Downs

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Description:

Dentures at Core Dental Carrum Downs *Comfortable, natural-looking dentures crafted by on-site dental prosthetist Alessio Pecorella — with the convenience and expertise of a full-service dental pra...

Details:

Comfortable, natural-looking dentures crafted by on-site dental prosthetist Alessio Pecorella — with the convenience and expertise of a full-service dental practice on Ballarto Road.

Modern Dentures: Not Your Grandparents' False Teeth

If your image of dentures is a set of artificial-looking teeth in a glass by the bedside, it's time to update that picture. Modern dentures are light years ahead of what previous generations wore. Today's materials, techniques, and digital technology allow dental prosthetists to create dentures that look remarkably natural, fit comfortably, and function well — restoring both your smile and your ability to eat, speak, and live with confidence.

At Core Dental Carrum Downs, we have a significant advantage when it comes to denture care: our dental prosthetist, Alessio Pecorella, works on-site. This means the person who designs, crafts, and adjusts your dentures is right here in the practice — working closely with our dentists, seeing you in person for fittings, and making adjustments without the delays that come from outsourcing to external laboratories.

For patients in Carrum Downs, Langwarrin, Frankston North, Skye, Cranbourne West, and the surrounding suburbs, this integrated approach translates to better-fitting dentures, faster turnaround times, and a more seamless experience overall.

Types of Dentures We Offer

Full Dentures (Complete Dentures)

Full dentures replace an entire arch of teeth — either upper, lower, or both. They rest on the gums and are held in place by suction (for upper dentures) and the natural contour of the jaw (for lower dentures), sometimes supplemented by denture adhesive.

Modern full dentures are crafted from high-quality acrylic and porcelain materials that closely replicate the appearance of natural teeth and gums. The teeth are individually selected and arranged to suit your facial features, complexion, and the natural proportions of your mouth — not stamped out of a one-size-fits-all mould.

Partial Dentures

Partial dentures replace one or more missing teeth while your remaining natural teeth stay in place. They typically consist of replacement teeth attached to a gum-coloured base, which is connected to a metal or flexible framework that clasps onto your existing teeth for stability.

Partial dentures serve two important functions: they restore the appearance and chewing ability lost with missing teeth, and they prevent remaining teeth from drifting into the gaps — which would

otherwise gradually worsen your bite alignment and lead to further dental problems.

Implant-Retained Dentures (Overdentures)

For patients who want significantly more stability than conventional dentures can provide, implant-retained dentures are a game-changer. Two to four dental implants are placed in the jawbone, and the denture clips or snaps onto these implants, holding it firmly in place.

The advantages over conventional dentures are substantial: - **No slipping or movement** — the denture is anchored to the implants - **Improved chewing ability** — you can eat a wider range of foods with confidence - **No adhesives needed** — the implant attachments hold the denture securely - **Bone preservation** — the implants stimulate the jawbone, slowing the bone loss that occurs under conventional dentures - **Increased confidence** — you can speak, laugh, and eat without worrying about your dentures moving

At Core Dental Carrum Downs, our dentists handle the implant placement and our prosthetist Alessio Pecorella designs and fabricates the overdenture — all under one roof, with seamless coordination between the two.

Immediate Dentures

Immediate dentures are placed on the same day that teeth are extracted. They serve as a temporary solution during the healing period (which typically lasts several months), ensuring you're never left without teeth. Once healing is complete and the gums and bone have settled, a permanent denture is fabricated to fit the healed ridge.

Immediate dentures require more adjustments than permanent dentures because the mouth changes shape as it heals, but they provide the significant benefit of maintaining your appearance, speech, and ability to eat during the transition period.

The Denture Process at Core Dental Carrum Downs

Initial Consultation

Your denture journey begins with a comprehensive consultation where we assess your oral health, discuss your goals, and determine the best type of denture for your situation. This includes:

- A thorough examination of your mouth, gums, and any remaining teeth
- Digital X-rays if needed
- Discussion of your lifestyle, dietary needs, and aesthetic preferences
- An honest conversation about the options available — full vs. partial, conventional vs. implant-retained
- A clear cost estimate

Impressions and Measurements

Precise impressions of your mouth are taken to create a detailed model. We also take measurements of your bite relationship (how your upper and lower jaws come together) and assess factors like:

- The shape and contour of your gums and palate
- Your facial proportions and profile
- Your lip line (how much tooth shows when you smile and speak)
- Your natural bite position

Tooth Selection and Try-In

You'll be involved in selecting the teeth for your denture — the size, shape, and shade. This is a collaborative process; Alessio Pecorella uses his expertise to guide you, but the final choice reflects your preferences and what will look most natural with your facial features and complexion.

A wax try-in denture is created so you can see and feel how the final denture will look before it's completed. This is your opportunity to assess the appearance, make adjustments to tooth position or shade, and ensure you're happy with the result before the permanent denture is processed.

Fabrication

Your denture is fabricated using high-quality materials and precision techniques. Because Alessio works on-site, this process is more streamlined than at practices that outsource to external laboratories. Communication is direct, turnaround is faster, and any fine-tuning is handled efficiently.

Fitting and Adjustment

When your denture is complete, we fit it and make any necessary adjustments. New dentures almost always require some fine-tuning — it's a normal part of the process. Slight pressure points, minor fit adjustments, and bite refinements are addressed to ensure optimal comfort.

We schedule follow-up appointments in the days and weeks after fitting to monitor how you're adapting and make any further adjustments needed.

Living with Dentures: What to Expect

The Adjustment Period

New dentures require an adjustment period — typically a few weeks. During this time:

- **Eating:** Start with soft foods cut into small pieces. Chew slowly and use both sides of your mouth. Gradually reintroduce firmer foods as you gain confidence. - **Speaking:** You may notice some changes in how you form certain words initially. Practice reading aloud or speaking in front of a mirror. This typically improves quickly. - **Saliva:** Increased saliva production is common initially but settles down. - **Soreness:** Some mild gum soreness is normal as your mouth adapts. If sore spots persist, come in for an adjustment rather than suffering through it.

Denture Care

Proper care extends the life of your dentures and keeps your mouth healthy:

- **Clean daily** using a soft denture brush and denture cleaner (not regular toothpaste, which is too abrasive) - **Rinse after eating** to remove food debris - **Remove at night** to give your gums a chance to rest (unless otherwise advised) - **Soak overnight** in water or a mild denture soaking solution to prevent drying and warping - **Clean your gums** — brush your gums, tongue, and palate with a soft toothbrush each morning before inserting your dentures - **Handle carefully** — dentures are durable but can break if dropped. Clean them over a folded towel or a basin of water

Regular Check-ups

Even with full dentures, regular dental check-ups remain important. Your dentist will:

- Examine your gums, palate, and any remaining teeth - Screen for oral cancer and other soft tissue abnormalities - Assess your denture fit — the shape of your mouth changes over time as bone remodelling occurs, and dentures may need relining or replacing - Check your bite alignment - Clean and polish your dentures professionally

We recommend at least annual check-ups for denture wearers, though more frequent visits may be appropriate depending on your individual circumstances.

Common Concerns About Dentures

"Will dentures look fake?"

Modern dentures are crafted to look remarkably natural. The teeth are individually selected to match your facial features, and the gum-coloured base is designed to replicate the appearance of natural gum tissue — including subtle colour variations and texturing. With Alessio Pecorella's expertise and the collaborative try-in process, you'll have the opportunity to see how your denture looks before it's finalised and make any adjustments to tooth position, shade, or arrangement.

"Will I be able to eat normally?"

There is an adjustment period with new dentures, and some foods may be more challenging initially. However, most patients adapt within a few weeks and can eat a wide variety of foods comfortably. Implant-retained dentures provide significantly better chewing ability than conventional dentures — many patients describe them as life-changing in terms of the foods they can enjoy.

Some very hard, sticky, or crunchy foods may always require caution with conventional dentures, but the range of foods you can eat comfortably is much broader than most people expect.

"Will dentures affect my speech?"

New dentures may affect pronunciation of certain sounds initially, particularly "s" and "f" sounds. This is temporary — most patients adjust within a week or two as the tongue and muscles adapt to the new dental contours. Reading aloud and practicing conversation speeds up the adjustment process.

"I've had dentures before and they were terrible"

Not all dentures are created equal. The quality of materials, the precision of fit, and the skill of the prosthetist make an enormous difference. If you've had a poor experience with dentures in the past, it's worth exploring whether better-fitting, better-designed dentures — or implant-retained dentures — could transform your experience.

When Dentures Need Attention

Relines

Over time, the shape of your gums and jawbone changes — particularly in the first year after tooth extraction. Denture relining involves adding new material to the fitting surface of the denture to improve its fit against your changed gum contour. This is a normal maintenance procedure and is much less costly than a new denture.

Repairs

Cracked or broken dentures, loose teeth, or damaged clasps can often be repaired rather than replaced. With our prosthetist on-site, many repairs can be completed quickly — sometimes on the same day.

Replacement

Dentures typically last 5–10 years, depending on the quality of the materials, how well they're cared for, and how much the mouth changes over time. Signs that your dentures may need replacing include persistent looseness, visible wear on the teeth, frequent breakages, and changes in your facial appearance or bite.

The Advantage of an On-Site Dental Prosthetist

Having Alessio Pecorella as part of our Core Dental Carrum Downs team provides tangible benefits:

- ****Direct communication:**** Your prosthetist and dentist can discuss your case face-to-face, in real time, ensuring treatment is coordinated perfectly.
- ****Faster turnaround:**** No waiting for external laboratory schedules. Adjustments, repairs, and relines can often be completed more quickly.
- ****Chairside adjustments:**** If something doesn't feel right at a fitting, Alessio can make adjustments on the spot rather than sending the denture away.
- ****Continuity of care:**** You see the same prosthetist every time, building a relationship and ensuring consistency.
- ****Integrated treatment planning:**** For implant-retained dentures, the prosthetist works alongside the implant dentist from the planning stage, ensuring the denture and implants are designed as an integrated system.

Dentures and Your Overall Health

Missing teeth and poorly fitting dentures can affect more than just your smile:

- **Nutrition:** Difficulty chewing can lead to dietary changes — avoiding fresh fruits, vegetables, and meats in favour of softer, often less nutritious foods. Well-fitting dentures (particularly implant-retained dentures) restore chewing ability and support a healthier diet. - **Digestion:** Inadequate chewing means food enters the stomach in larger pieces, potentially causing digestive discomfort. - **Speech:** Missing teeth or ill-fitting dentures can affect pronunciation, leading to self-consciousness and social withdrawal. - **Confidence:** The psychological impact of missing teeth or poorly fitting dentures should not be underestimated. Many patients report significant improvements in confidence and quality of life after receiving well-made dentures. - **Facial appearance:** When teeth are lost, the jawbone gradually resorbs, and the lower face can take on a "sunken" appearance. Dentures help maintain facial structure, and implant-retained dentures actively slow bone loss.

Cost and Payment Options

The cost of dentures depends on the type (full, partial, implant-retained), the materials used, and the complexity of the case. We provide clear, detailed cost estimates during your consultation, so you know exactly what to expect.

Payment Options

- **Health fund:** We accept all major health funds with HICAPS on-site. Dentures are covered under the "major dental" or "general dental" category of most health funds, with rebates varying by fund and level of cover. - **Payright:** Interest-free payment plans make dentures accessible without financial stress. - **Transparent pricing:** No hidden costs. Your quote covers the full process from impressions to final fitting.

Book Your Denture Consultation

Whether you're considering dentures for the first time, need your existing dentures replaced, or want to explore the life-changing stability of implant-retained dentures, Core Dental Carrum Downs is here to help.

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Hours: Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm Saturday: 8:00 am – 1:30 pm Sunday: Closed

Ground-floor, fully disability accessible. Ample on-site parking. On-site dental prosthetist. All health funds accepted with HICAPS. Interest-free payment plans through Payright.

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