

What is Invisalign?

Invisalign is a clear aligner system that gradually straightens upper and/or lower teeth.

How does it work?

Once a scan of the teeth are taken and treatment has been agreed via a Clincheck, a series of clear aligners are made. Each aligner is worn for 22 hours a day, just taken out for eating and cleaning teeth. The aligners are changed every 2 weeks. It is important that they are worn correctly or the treatment may not work.

Who can have Invisalign?

Anyone, Invisalign have a system especially for teenagers but you are never too old for braces. The only requirement is that you are dentally fit, so no decay or active gum disease and you wear the aligners. If you think that you would not be disciplined enough to wear the aligners as prescribed, this might not be the system for you. There are alternatives.

How long does it take?

It depends on the complexity of the treatment, but once the treatment has been agreed you will know how long the treatment will take as each aligner is worn for 2 weeks, so if you need 20 aligners, then your treatment will take 40 weeks.

What else do I need to know?

Sometimes it is necessary to place attachments to your teeth in a tooth coloured material so that the aligners can grip the teeth and move them, it depends on the tooth movement required. These are removed at the end of the treatment. In order to create space to straighten your teeth, you may need to have a tiny amount of enamel carefully shaved from between each tooth, this is carefully calculated and does not damage your teeth.

How often do I need an appointment?

You need to have a clinical consultation to have a scan done, photos and any necessary x-rays as well as checking that there is no decay or gum disease. We then offer a second appointment to review your treatment and get consent to proceed. Once your aligners have been fitted, you only need to come in every 6-8 weeks, sometimes it can be longer between appointments.

What happens at the end of treatment?

Once your treatment is complete, at Evolve we recommend that everyone has a fixed and removable retainer to ensure that your teeth don't move again. All teeth will try to move back to their original position. We also include tooth whitening as part of our package. We also consider if you need any composite bonding as the teeth may have worn from being in their crowded position, so need to be restored, or the teeth may have been very narrow and there are black triangles between the teeth. This would have been apparent and discussed at the Clincheck appointment and can easily be disguised with Bioclear bonding. There is a separate charge for Bioclear bonding.

Who will carry out my treatment?

At Evolve we have a specialist orthodontist who has done additional training in braces and can carry out all cases, especially the more complex ones. One of our general dentists also can do Invisalign but tends to focus on the cosmetic cases.

How do I know if my case is cosmetic or complex?

Before you see one of our clinicians, we offer a free appointment with one of our treatment co-ordinators, this is a non-clinical appointment but they can talk you through the process. We ask that you send us 3 photos of your teeth, (we will send you a video explaining what we need) so that we can start to assess the complexity of your case. Based on what you are trying to achieve and what we can see from the photos, we will book you in with the most appropriate clinician. If you are booked in with the general dentist but your case is complex on further investigation, you will be offer a complementary appointment with orthodontist.

How much does it cost?

Every case is different but it costs between £3,500 – £5,000. At Evolve we spread the cost for you so that it's more affordable for you.

What's the next step?

Contact Evolve to book your appointment on 01275 842550.