

# Single Missing Tooth

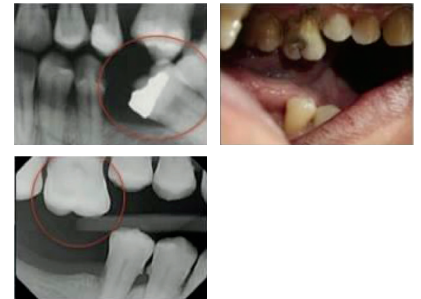
## Your Options for Treatment

A missing tooth is a serious issue. It can cause long-term damage to facial structure, bone density and your ability to feel confident in your smile.

Clarence Street Dental has several options available to fix your missing tooth.

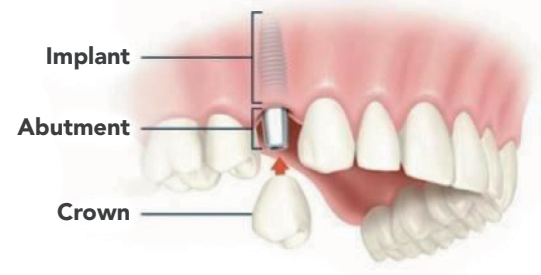
### Option 1: Do Nothing

You don't HAVE to replace your missing tooth. If you choose not to replace your missing teeth, the bone will continue to shrink away and the teeth in the neighbourhood may shift or tip. That means that additional bone grafting or braces may be required later if you change your mind and want your tooth replaced, which of course means the cost, time, and complexity goes way up. The cost for doing nothing initially could mean you spend \$10,000+ down the road.



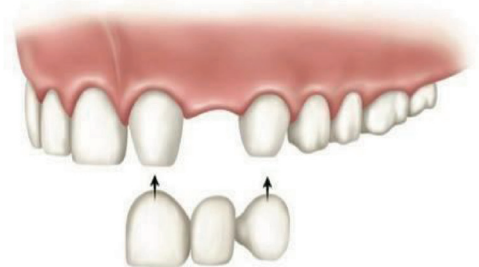
### Option 2: Dental Implant

The bad news is that an implant is the most expensive and the slowest option. It can cost \$3,500 to \$5,000, and take around 4 months. But the good news is that an implant is the nicest looking, longest lasting, strongest, and safest option. You can smile, eat, and chew just like a natural tooth! In fact, having an implant is the next best thing to re-growing your own tooth.



### Option 3: Bridge

A bridge is a little less expensive than an implant (\$3,200 - \$4,500), and it can be done relatively quick (2-3 weeks). The downside though is that your bone continues to deteriorate underneath the bridge. You might get increased cold sensitivity in your teeth, or even root canal problems in some situations. The biggest problem is that food, bacteria, and toxins get stuck underneath the bridge because they are very difficult to clean. This can cause cavities and failure, which means taking the bridge off and starting from scratch. Typically, you can expect to replace a bridge approximately every 9 years.



### Option 4: Removable Partial Denture

This is the cheapest and fastest option. It will cost \$500 - \$2,000 and take a couple of weeks. The problem is that they are removable, which means that they are not nearly as stable as the options above. You can't expect to eat or chew or grind your food very well, and you CAN expect to get food stuck around them, and to have metal hooks that might show in your smile. They are the cheapest, but this is definitely the least comfortable, functional, and desirable option.

