

DENTAL IMPLANT COST

Is Implant Dentistry Worth It?

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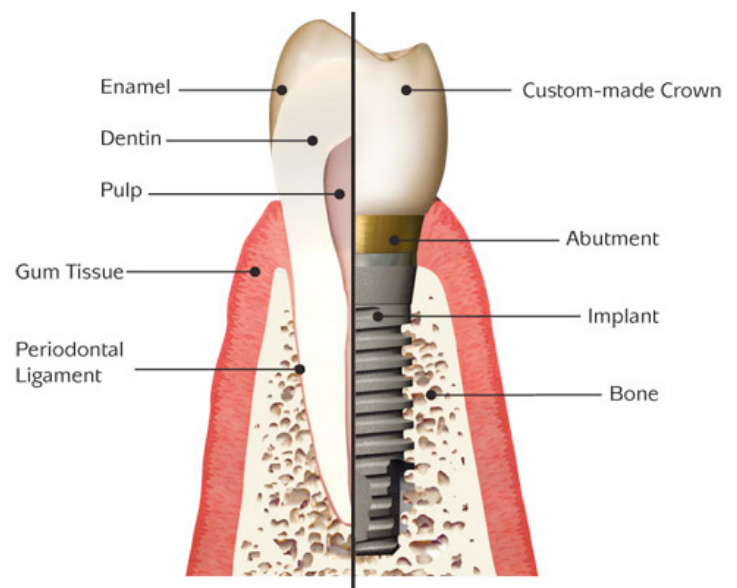
People frequently ask me, so, how much does an implant cost?

Cost Questions:

The cost of dental implant depends on a number of factors including, the type of implant, the amount of jawbone is left around where the tooth is broken or lost, as well as location and function of the implant.

Different types of implants exist for different purposes; Implants are used to replace a single missing tooth, multiple teeth or to support a denture. Costs do differ on implants and components that are needed for your particular purpose.

The amount of jawbone one has is a major determining factor on cost as well. Lack of good quality bone may necessitate bone grafting, which is a procedure to build back bone in an area of the mouth where an implant is to be placed. Adequate width and height of jawbone is best measured by a 3D cone beam scan, which allows the dentist to measure both the height and width of bone before planning an implant.



Costs can also vary based on the connector parts from the implant to the artificial tooth; stock and customized parts can be used. Like anything, customized is often better for both the long term health and stability of the implant tooth, but is also more expensive than stock part options.

Also dependent on cost is how much is covered or not covered by your dental insurance. Implants are covered by some dental insurance companies now.

So cost is a complicated discussion! The truth is, it really depends on your conditions and what you want.

Advantages of Implants

Dental implants are among the most successful procedures in dentistry. Although there is no guarantee that a dental implant will be successful, studies have shown 10 year success rates of

90-98%. A comparable tooth replacement procedure, a dental bridge, by comparison has a 10 year success rate of around 50%.

Dental implants, as they are made of titanium or zirconium, are not susceptible to decay, and if successful they help maintain the bone level around the missing tooth area. Most people don't know that once a tooth is removed the bone around that tooth that was lost begins to break down and disappear. Also at stake at times is adjacent teeth; the dental bridges that are done require teeth on either side of the missing tooth to be ground down, making them more susceptible to other dental issues down the road.

They also help restore and increase bite power and stop teeth from shifting. So they have a lot of advantages.



Can you spot the two implanted teeth?
(Dentistry done by Hebert Dental)

Bottom line:

If you simply want to know the cost of a dental implant without any of the parts to put a tooth back on, or bone grafting, can run anywhere from \$900 - \$2500.

A dental implant to replace a single missing tooth, for everything - the temporary tooth after you have an implant placed, minor bone grafting, the implant, the tooth and holder for the tooth (called the abutment) generally cost between \$4000-5000. It's definitely more expensive than a dental bridge (\$3500 approx.) but has the potential to last significantly longer with other benefits as well.



Dr. Tarpenning is a dentist at Hebert Dental in Eau Claire, Wisconsin and has authored a book entitled "Get Your Smile On! Your Guide To Extraordinary Dental Care" in 2013.

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