

The Beginner's Guide To Full Arch Dental Implants *Denture Alternatives*

Also known as:

Confi-Dents, and

***Implant Supported Dentures,
Full Arch Bridges,
All-On-4, All-On-6,
Full Mouth Implants,
Dental Prosthetics,
Tomorrow Teeth.....***



There are many denture-alternative options out there for denture wearers. It can be confusing and everything is called different names online.

We hear these questions every day.

This guide is intended to help people have a better understanding of these prosthetics, what to look for and what style is ultimately best for them.

The purpose of this guide is to help those of you who feel confused by all of the advertising out there.

We are **Buffalo Dental Implant** and we carry a full line of these prosthetics under the Confi-Dents® name brand. You'll see this name through out this guide. In the spirit of full disclosure, we certainly hope that you choose to have a free consultation with us :)

But the main goal of this guide is for you to feel empowered and educated, no matter where you go!

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What are Full Mouth Prosthetics?

Implant supported “dentures and bridges” are high tech and ultra-slim dental hybrid prosthetics that allow you to have a thinner, lighter and more comfortable denture replacement in your mouth. They are various types of “overdentures” that are supported by dental implants. A traditional denture rests on the gums, and is not supported at all by implants.

Implant prosthetics are supported by dental implants in varying degrees. Most people need between 4 and 6 implants in both the top and bottom to provide the best stability. This is where the names All-On-4 and All-On-6 originated. You want enough support to reinforce the top and bottom, and also front and back to make sure they don't wobble. This allows you to not just bite with your front teeth, but also safely chew with your back teeth. You can also choose to wear a traditional denture on top and use an implant supported prosthetic on the bottom. Top dentures tend to stay in place better than bottom dentures.



What are the Medical Advantages of Confi-Dents and Implant Supported Prosthetics?

Dental Implants help you to retain your natural jawbone. Regular dentures don't do this.

Your jaw bone is designed to support your teeth which means that when teeth fall out, the jawbone no longer has a function in that area of the mouth. Your body eventually starts losing bone in these areas after tooth loss. This results in a gradual facial collapse. Since the jaw bone also serves to hold the facial structure, people with deteriorating jawbones can experience conditions such as the look of extreme aging. Bone loss is not just aesthetic, you can lose enough bone that your regular dentures start to push against the nerve that runs through your mandible (lower jaw).

Once dental implants are in place, the jawbone has a function again and the bone level around the implant is retained. When using implants to stabilize Confi-Dents, the implant preserves the bone and thus supports facial muscles.

There are 3 main denture categories.

1. Traditional Dentures

Traditional Dentures - Prosthetic devices constructed to replace missing teeth, and are supported by the surrounding soft and hard tissues of your mouth. Conventional dentures are removable and rest fully on your gums. They are held in your mouth using denture adhesives. There are 3 main categories:

1. **Conventional.** Fully removable denture made and placed in your mouth after any remaining teeth are removed and tissue has healed. Healing may take several months.
2. **Immediate.** Fully removable denture placed on the same day that the remaining teeth are removed. Your dentist will take impressions of your jaw during your preliminary visit. You won't be without teeth during the healing period, but may need to have the denture adjusted or remade after your jaw has healed.
3. **Overdenture.** Sometimes some of your teeth can be saved to preserve your jawbone and provide stability and support for the denture. An overdenture fits over a small number of remaining natural teeth after they have been prepared by your dentist.



****** Did you know that in many cases, Buffalo Dental Implant can retro-set your existing dentures so that they can become a Removable Implant Supported Denture? Your existing dentures can snap in and stay in just like Removable Confi-Dents.**

We can also remove the upper palate of your existing dentures (which is the part that covers the top of your mouth). This helps people with gag reflex issues, and it increases your ability to taste food. Come in for a free consultation, bring your dentures with you, and we'll see if we are able to resto-set yours!

3 main denture categories.

2. Removable Implant Supported Dentures

Removable Implant Supported Dentures - Removable dentures that partially rest on your gums and are partially supported by dental implants. These stay in place by snapping onto the dental implants. They allow you to speak and chew food with more confidence. They do need to be removed daily for cleaning and personal oral hygiene. They also can stay in your mouth overnight, allowing you to wake up with teeth in your mouth. They are made to have ridgelap. This means the gums extend over your actual gums. This ridgelap combined with the soft cupping arch allows them to rest on the gums while also being supported by dental implants. They are designed so that no one can see the ridgelap when you talk, chew or smile.



3 main denture categories.

3. Fixed Full Arch Implant Supported Bridges

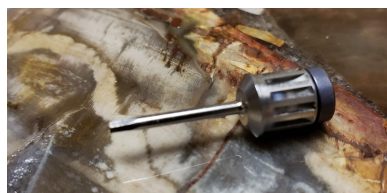
Fixed Full Arch Implant Supported Bridges - This type is permanently screwed into your implants. They are shaped so that normal brushing will take care of your oral health. Fixed Confi-Dents are for people who want almost zero maintenance. People with arthritic or limited-ability hands who can't remove dentures easily, and patients with dry mouth syndrome (such as those dealing with cancer) benefit from Fixed because the shape allows for the maximum oral health without removal.



Are these screwed in forever? No. Our dentists have a special tool to get them out any time that you need service. No one can tell that there are tiny screws.

The amount of aesthetic gum used is based on your smile and bone structure. There is no ridgelap because these are not supported by your gums. This allows them to be cleaned in your mouth like natural teeth.

Fixed Confi-Dents are removable by your dentist using a little screwdriver tool.



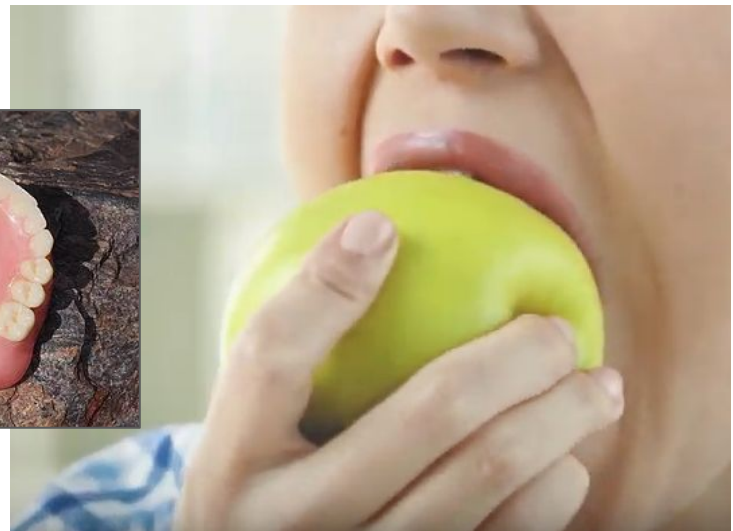
Why do people choose implant supported dental prosthetics over traditional dentures?

Implant supported dental prosthetics offer a choice to people who struggle with regular dentures.

They will:

- Give you a more youthful appearance by improving your jawline and the areas around your mouth.
- Allow you to bite into steak, apples and other foods you may miss enjoying.
- Eliminate the need for goopy denture adhesive.
- Allow you to fully taste your food again, because the roof of your mouth isn't covered.
- Allow you to wake up with teeth in your mouth.

Confid-Dents (on left) leave the roof of your mouth open



Things to consider

Traditional Dentures are the most budget friendly option. They need to be removed twice a day for oral hygiene. You take them out to sleep. They can slip when chewing or talking. They cover the roof of your mouth so tasting and talking can be affected.

Removable Implant Supported Dentures are the most cost effective option of all Implant Supported prosthetics. They offer all of the benefits of implant supported dentures as far as bone growth and support. You do need to remove them twice a day for cleaning. You can sleep with them in your mouth so you wake with teeth. This is the option to choose if you have excess bone loss from having been without teeth for a long time. Have you noticed wrinkles around your mouth from tooth loss? Removable Implant Supported Dentures afford the biggest ability to build up the amount of support materials into the denture that will separate your upper and lower jaw and eliminate a lot of the wrinkling.



Fixed Full Arch Implant Supported Bridges are the ultimate in convenience. You brush and care for them while they are in your mouth. They can be removed by your dentist in the rare event that you need some maintenance. This is the closest you can come to having your natural teeth in place.

How long do I have to go without teeth?

Zero days. We make a temporary prosthetic (called a flipper) for you prior to your day of surgery. This goes in place before you walk out of our office door. So you never need to have anyone see that your teeth are missing.

Your temporary teeth are made from custom impressions to give you the best fit possible.

Even places that say they are giving you “Teeth Tomorrow” are still giving you a temporary prosthetic. The fact is, having implants placed requires healing time. Your mouth and gums will have some normal degree of swelling so it’s not possible to get a true impression of your final prosthetic until healing has taken place.



When Implants are placed with surgical accuracy, there is much less pain than most people think. So often we hear, “Is that it?” when Dr. Farber is finished with their Implant placement. If post operative instructions are followed, many patients can go to work right after surgery.

For those who are worried about post surgical pain, we can prescribe medications that can help. We also understand dental anxiety. Dr. Farber can prescribe medications to be used during the procedure that will relax you thoroughly and make the entire process feel very easy.

What types of implants are used?

Buffalo Dental Implant uses only titanium Implants that are made in the USA.

Titanium is an inert metal that is extremely strong and is also compatible with body tissue.

This means that your body won't reject the metal once placed in your mouth.

The helical edges along with highly studied microscopic surfaces of the Implant (the part that looks like a screw) offer your body the ridges that your natural bone will grow into.

They help lock the Implant in place, most often for a lifetime.



Do you have some remaining teeth that you want to save? You can also get Partial Arch Implant Supported Dentures.

Implant supported dentures (bridges), like traditional dental bridges, replace a few teeth rather than the full “arch” top or bottom.

They are supported by dental implants and are removable.



Confi-Dents Partial Denture

What are the Steps to Implant Supported Options?

Step 1. We take impressions for your temporary teeth. This is done a few days before so that they are ready for you at step 2.

Step 2. If you have remaining teeth, they are extracted on the same day that your implants are placed. Today is also the day that you get your temporary teeth so you walk out the door with a full set of teeth in your mouth.

Step 3 Over the next 12-16 weeks, you visit us for a few post-operative visits, just to make sure everything is healing well. Towards the end of this cycle, we take another set of impressions (with your implants in place) for your mock up teeth (also called wax-ups or try-ins).

Step 4. Your mock-up teeth are placed. This is an exciting appointment because you'll get to see what your teeth will really look like. This is also the appointment where you can decide what you like and don't like. Wish the shade was a bit brighter or a tooth was a bit longer? This is when the chance to make these changes take place.

Once you are 100% happy, your permanent Confi-Dents are made. You can expect to have them in 2-3 weeks.

Step 5. Your permanent Confi-Dents are ready for you! Come on in and we'll show you how to care for them and help you with your placement.

General Dentist or Surgeon?

In many situations, a **general dentist** could place implants. There are big advantages, though, to having a **surgeon**, like Dr. Farber, place your implants. A surgeon's success rate for implant placement is 99%* versus a general dentist's success rate of 81.3%*.

Because Dr. Farber places numerous implants every day, he is prepared for the occasional "what if" that a general dentist may not be prepared for. He has the tools, knowledge and experience to deal with anything that can occur.

Dr. Farber's experience also allows him to move through the procedures faster which reduces discomfort, chair time and healing time.

Buffalo Dental Implant Supported Denture pricing is competitive in the market and the price does not increase because a surgeon is placing your implants. In many cases our fees are lower because it takes Dr. Farber much less time than it takes a general dentist to place each implant.



What's the difference between All-on-4 or All-on-6?

All-on-4 does sound nice and it does make the process cheaper. However, less expensive shouldn't be the first consideration for oral health, appearance, and a lifetime of smiles. There are a few more elements that your dental implant surgeon will take into consideration when it comes to making a recommendation as to which is the right procedure for you.

All-On-6 is usually the best option for patients who have poor jaw bone density or are candidates for potential future bone loss. Having dental implants in place stimulates bone growth, which helps strengthen the jaw. Having 6 implants provides better stability for the denture, dispersing the pressure of the mouth and bite more evenly which can also help your new smile to look and work better for even longer.



This patient chose Fixed Full Arch with 6 Implants. This means her teeth are screwed in permanently by her dentist because she didn't want to have to remove them to clean. The screws will be covered with removeable cement and no one will be able to tell. Her dentist always has access to the screws, too. 6 well placed implants ensures bone retention and a secure bite.

What exactly happens at a consult?

You will be greeted at your private consultation by our Implant Coordinator. He/She will ask relevant questions, review your oral history, examine your mouth, and take any x-rays or diagnostics needed (also for free). Dr Farber will then be able to present to you all of the options that are viable for your case and how much each option will cost. All treatment plans are based off of what your particular needs and wants include. Dr. Farber believes that every patient should have several options to choose from based on budget and what is important to them.

It's easier to get your personal options here than to try to figure it out yourself.

If you decide to move forward with your procedure, we will take impressions needed for your temporary teeth.

If you aren't ready to decide, that's ok! There is no obligation to move forward. You'll just have a great understanding of what your choices are.

We'll be here when you're ready.



Still not sure? Or even scared? We understand!

You can check out Dawn's story on our Youtube channel.
(She's a real life Confi-Dents patient :)
Dawn was scared of implants, dentists, needles and dental
offices.

Click here to see her story or visit our YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2g-eLvc1Sog&t=1s>



What do Buffalo Dental Implant Patients say?

New Review

DR. FARBER IS A ROCK STAR! AFTER A DIFFICULT 10 YEARS WHEN I COULDN'T AFFORD DENTAL WORK, MY DENTAL NEEDS WERE ENORMOUS AND EMBARRASSING. DR. FARBER GAVE NO CRITICISM. HE HAS PROVIDED UNDERSTANDING, ENCOURAGEMENT, COMPASSION, SUPERIOR WORK, AND ALL THE RIGHT SOLUTIONS - NOT SURPRISING IF YOU READ HIS RESUME. HE'S THE BEST THERE!! AND I'M FOREVER GRATEFUL TO HIM AND HIS WONDERFUL STAFF. ANYONE WHO WANTS THE BEST DENTAL CARE AVAILABLE NEEDS MAKE DR. FARBER THEIR NUMBER ONE CHOICE.

Becky M (healthgrades review)

Another 5 Star Review!

Years of not being comfortable enough to actually smile, going through countless infected teeth problems, not being able to enjoy food, due to a

Reviews ★★★★★

Feedback

I absolutely love Dr. Farber. He put me at ease as soon as I met him. No matter every person I meet is so kind and most helpful.

nt Feedback Form

Buffalo Dental Implant

Reviews ★★★★★

Buffalo Dental Implant

I would and I have recommended this to all my friends and family members. The Dr. Farber and staff are extremely professional and very friendly too. Subsequent to 10 years of substandard dentistry, I'm confident that Buffalo Dental Implant providers use the best dental techniques and practices to treat all dental needs.

Kathleen H. Patient Feedback Form

Reviews ★★★★★

I am not a person to write a review as EXCELLENT unless it is EXCELLENT!! Dr. Farber and his amazing staff have finished implant #4 on me. My teeth are very important to me and Dr. Farber is the only one I trust when it comes to implants! Before each procedure, they explain in detail the procedure and costs involved. My first experience was approximately 20+ years ago. A fine line undetected crack caused infection and bone loss. Dr. Farber built up and repaired pain free!! That implant is still there and strong as ever!! As I have a phobia for needles, I must say, I am most relaxed in his care when receiving any injections needed. I had minimal swelling and no need for pain meds other than maybe a motrin!! He will give you his personal cell phone number if for any reason you need to contact him. His clerical staff will fit you in for an emergency as best they can!! Along with Dr. Farber, he has an amazing..well trained staff from assistants to clerical! They must be happy working there, because I have only experienced nice, happy employees! This makes the entire procedure easier to handle! No, I am not a personal friend of any one there, but yes I consider them my friends now! Soooo pleased, I have had the last 3 implants placed by Dr. Farber... and STILL remain pleased with all! I like to smile...a lot! Thank you Dr. Farber and entire staff!!

MaryRose D. - Google Review

Buffalo Dental Implant

Reviews ★★★★★

Buffalo Dental Implant

some, pain free services were provided. Very comfortable environment. HIGHLY recommend.

R. Z. - Google Review

Buffalo Dental Implant

Reviews ★★★★★

Buffalo Dental Implant

"Without a doubt this is one of the best run Dr. offices I have ever been to. Clean / efficient and friendly! Back when I had original consultation ~3 years ago Dr. Farber told me the game plan. He said if you do your part and we do ours, you shouldn't need surgery. If down the road you did, it would be the last resort. Dr. Farber was my second opinion and was exactly what I needed to hear. He saved me thousands of dollars!"

Brighter Anonymous Feedback

Buffalo Dental Implant

Reviews ★★★★★

Buffalo Dental Implant

Everybody from the time we walked in were so helpful and friendly! Dr Farber and his assistant could not have been more informative and answered my questions thoroughly! Made a difficult morning easier to get through!

Anonymous - Patient Review

Buffalo Dental Implant

New Review

ALWAYS CUSTOMER CENTERED. ALL OF THE STAFF ARE PLEASANT AND COURTEOUS, AS WELL AS COMPETENT AND PROFESSIONAL.

James L. Patient Feedback