

How to Choose a Cosmetic Dentist

Here are a few questions you should ask of the cosmetic dentist you are considering:

- Which professional associations are you a member of? Are you a member of the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry (AACD)?
- Do you take 25-35 hours of continuing education every year including live, hands-on patient experience?
- What procedure do you recommend to help me best achieve my goals? What exactly can I expect during and after the procedure?
- Are there alternatives to the procedure recommended and what are the trade-offs?
- What is your recent experience in performing the procedure you are recommending for me? May I see before and after photographs of your patients' results and patient testimonials regarding their experience in your office?
- What laboratory ceramist do you use for veneers and crowns? May I see pictures of the lab's work?
- Is sedation available to make this a more relaxing and anxiety free experience?
- Does the dentist provide study models or bonding previews?
- Ask the dentist what sets him apart from his peers.

The three most important questions you can ask are:

- What training have you had?
- How often do you do this procedure?
- Can you show me some cases you have done?

REMEMBER THAT YOU SHOULD FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH THE DENTIST AND HIS TEAM, SINCE YOU WILL BE PLACING YOUR TRUST IN THEM. IT IS ALSO GOOD TO ASK THE DENTIST FOR SOME PATIENTS HE HAS TREATED SO YOU CAN CALL THEM AND TALK TO THEM ABOUT THE PROCEDURE.

