



【 Shade Taking 】

Taking an accurate shade is extremely important in lab communication. The shade prescribed will be favorable or detrimental to the outcome of the restoration(s). Shade analysis can be challenging yet extremely rewarding, but most of all it is a necessity in this day and age of aesthetic dentistry.



In the photo for the final goal shade tabs with gum shade holder, place facials of shade tabs the same distance from the lens as the teeth.

The shade tabs and the patient's teeth are placed edge to edge.

Also, helpful to take three different angle shots.



Shows stump shade guide next to teeth preps. These shade tabs are important to use.

Use 3 tabs so we can have extra shade references.

Write on Rx which shade tabs are used.

Use Camera Properly:

Always ensure the shade tab and lettering (A1, B1) is completely visible. It is important that you hold the shade tab in the same orientation as the natural teeth so that the light reflects in the same way. Try to place the incisal edge of the shade tab alongside the incisal edge of the tooth. Also, the shade should be taken as quickly as possible to eliminate retinal fatigue.

Use Multiple Shade Tabs in Photos:

There will be more than one shade tab that looks good. Providing the lab with photos of various shade tabs will allow the lab technician more insight and the chance to compare elements of color between the two pictures. It is very important to include a stump-prep shade (color of the prepared tooth) if you are prescribing an all-ceramic restoration.

Details:

When reproducing natural teeth, there is always more than one shade involved. Considering the details in texture, line angles, and characterization, you want the depth of the shade to be distributed throughout the tooth, as well as any indents and craze lines in the tooth. Some might think this can be conveyed through detailed drawings, but it is best to capture a 1:1 close up with your digital camera and macro lens. These images should be in addition to your shade tab photos.



Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

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