

Getting to Know Your Braces

Please keep this sheet for reference throughout your treatment.

The picture and word descriptions are to acquaint you with your new appliances.

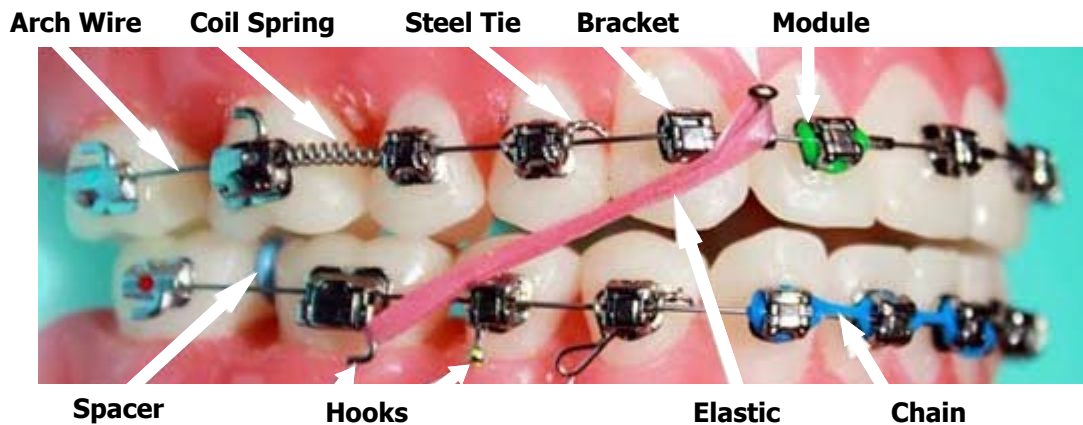
If you ever have a problem with one of the appliances or if anything is broken or lost, please call us as soon as possible.

When calling with a problem, use the diagrams to help communicate better and to schedule appointments appropriately.

Tooth Chart



Brace Appliances



Arch Wire The main wire that acts as a track to guide the teeth along. It's changed periodically throughout treatment, as teeth move to their new positions.

Bracket Small attachment that holds the arch wire in place. A bracket is cemented directly onto the tooth's surface, eliminating the need for a band.

Chain Continuous elastic band from one tooth to the next which helps close gaps between teeth.

Coil Spring Fits between brackets and over arch wire to open space between teeth.

Elastic Small rubber band that is hooked between different points on the appliance to provide pressure to move the teeth.

Headgear Tube Round, hollow attachment on the back bands. The inner bow of the headgear fits into it.

Hook Welded or removable arm to which elastics (rubber bands) are attached.

Module Tiny rubber band that fits around the bracket to hold the arch wire in proper place.

Spacer (also called Separator) Spacers/Separators are little elastics that may be placed between your teeth to push them apart so that orthodontic bands may be placed during your next appointment. The separators will be removed before we place the bands.