

WHEN IS THE "RIGHT TIME" TO GET BRACES?

Never Start With Braces Too Early



Save Time, Money and putting your child through a long treatment time. Remember: Starting treatment early DOES NOT mean you will get done faster

✓ In my opinion, **98% of young kids (ages 6-10) are getting braces TOO SOON**. This is usually called "phase 1" or "interceptive treatment" or "early treatment". The hope is that starting treatment early will mean you can "do more" now so that when rest of the adult teeth come in, FULL braces may not be needed or if they are needed, it will be "simpler" and treatment time will be "less complicated". The **TRUTH** of the matter is that FULL BRACES are needed 99.9% of the time and treatment is not any simpler than if one just waited for the right time.

✓ So the ultimate question is **NOT if treatment is needed but WHEN????**

✓ Starting too early can **trap the child in a 10+ year treatment period!!!** You see, this is because "early treatment" may take 1-2 years, followed by 2-4 year of observation (while the child still has some sort of retainer (s) to protect the result of 1st phase treatment), then full braces for couple years when 99-100% of adult teeth come in, followed by traditional retainer wear for many years. The child, parent and even the orthodontist gets frustrated and burnt out due to this lengthy process.

✓ **My goal is to do everything in one phase.**

This is when **99-100% of adult teeth have erupted for boys and girls and they are STILL GROWING**. The **usual age is between 11-14 years of age for BOTH boys and girls** ("Right around puberty").

✓ You see, I have 1000's of kids on recall where they come back every 6-8 or 10-12 month interval **UNTIL THEY ARE READY**. **I'm NEVER in a HURRY to place braces!** I don't mind observing someone for 3,4,5 years BEFORE I say "you're ready now".

✓ Makes sense - right? So remember *** **GREAT to get checked out early, but BAD to start too early*****

✓ **Main things that need early treatment (LESS THAN 5% of cases) are:** crossbite of teeth or jaw, thumb or fingersucking type habits, very narrow upper or lower jaws that may cause impacted or blocked out teeth, bringing the upper jaw forward and for psychological/social reasons.

Bottom line: Just stick with me over the years and I will personally guide you as to **WHEN** to start. This will save you a lot of time, hassle and money.



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