



Delaware Smile Center

Family Orthodontics

PALATAL EXPANDER INSTRUCTIONS

- Your child's expander is cemented to the teeth with special cement. It should stay on for the duration of treatment. However, if the appliance should loosen up, please call us immediately so that we may re-cement it.
- It is normal to experience mild discomfort with the expander, especially during the first 1 to 2 weeks. When your child talks, his/her speech may sound slurred. Don't worry! Speech will return to normal after the second week.
- After you turn the key, your child may feel some temporary pressure against the teeth or the roof of the mouth. This is to be expected and will subside after the turning has stopped.
- During expansion, your child will develop a space between the two front teeth. This space will gradually close on its own once the expansion has stopped.
- When turning the appliance with the key, make sure you turn it completely. If you don't, you will be unable to place the key in the slot for the next turn. If you are having trouble turning the expander, give us a call.
- Be sure to clean the key after each use with warm soapy water.
- Food can get caught between the appliance and the roof of the mouth. Make sure your child rinses thoroughly after eating and brushes thoroughly around the expander.
- If you have any questions about your child's palatal expander, give us a call.