

## INFORMATION REGARDING FIXED/LINGUAL RETAINERS

Orthodontic treatment in general consists of moving or guiding teeth and jaws into their proper relationships with braces. Upon completion of this active phase of treatment, new appliances are constructed to maintain these new relationships. This is referred to as the retention stage of treatment.

Some cases can be successfully retained with *removable* retainers, other cases require removable and/or *fixed* or lingual retainers. The doctor will decide which retainer(s) will work best for each individual patient.

When a fixed/lingual retainer is required, there may be an additional fee, over and above the total orthodontic fee. The fixed retainers are bonded to the lingual (or back) surface of the teeth. These fixed retainers are not removable by the patient. They will require additional attention regarding hygiene. The staff can review these hygiene techniques with you. Due to the nature of the bonding material, the bonding material breaks down over time and this may require an additional visit(s) to re-bond or remake this appliance. This does require a longer appointment and there may be an additional fee for the repair. If you detect that this may be happening to your fixed retainer, please contact the office as soon as possible. If the appliance becomes un-bonded, you risk shifting of the teeth, which may require for us to move the teeth before we can re-place a new fixed retainer. Again, if we need to move the teeth back to their original position, there may be an additional fee. All this will be discussed on a case to case basis.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask the doctor or staff.

Thank you,

The Staff at Westwalk Orthodontic Group, P.C.s