

True orthodontic emergencies are very rare, but when they do occur we are available to you. As a general rule, you should call our office on 5564 7322 when you experience severe pain or when you have a painful appliance problem that you can't take care of yourself. We'll be able to schedule an appointment to resolve the problem.



You might be surprised to learn that you may be able to temporarily solve many problems yourself until you schedule an appointment with our office. When working with your appliances, you need to know the names of the parts of your appliances so you are able to identify what part is broken or out of place. After alleviating your discomfort, it is very important that you still call our office to see if it is necessary to schedule a time to repair the problem. Allowing your appliance to remain damaged for an extended period of time may result in disruptions in your treatment plan.



Poking Wire – Using a pencil eraser, push the poking wire down or place wax on it to alleviate the discomfort.

Loose Bracket or Band – If your bracket or band is still attached to the wire, you should leave it in place & put wax on it. If the wire comes out entirely, wrap the bracket with a tissue.

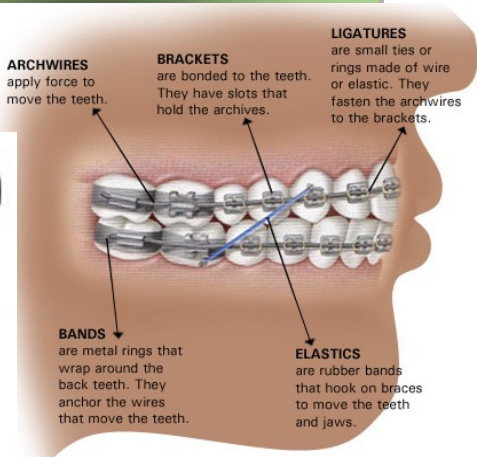
Loose Wire – Using tweezers, try to place your wire back into place. If doing this & using wax doesn't help, as a last resort use a small fingernail clipper to clip the wire behind the last tooth to which it is securely fastened. If your discomfort continues, place wax on it.



Loose Appliance – If your appliance is poking you, place wax on the offending part of your appliance.

Headgear Does Not Fit - Sometimes headgear discomfort is caused by not wearing the headgear as instructed by us. Please refer to the instructions provided by Dr Pepperell. If the facebow is bent, please call our office for assistance. Surprisingly, the headgear may hurt less if it's worn more, so be sure you're getting in the prescribed

The smile says it all.



General Soreness - When you get your braces on, you may feel general soreness in your mouth & teeth may be tender to biting pressures for three to five days. This can be relieved by rinsing your mouth with a warm salt water mouthwash. Dissolve one teaspoonful of salt in a glass of warm water & rinse your mouth vigorously. If the tenderness is severe, take aspirin or whatever you normally take for headache or similar pain.

The lips, cheeks, & tongue may also become irritated for one to two weeks as they toughen & become accustomed to the surface of the braces. You can put wax on the braces to lessen this. We'll show you how!