

Frankel III

Description and Purpose

The Frankel appliance is a removable orthodontic appliance made with acrylic and wire. It is used to maintain the correction of the underbite and/or open bite that was achieved in the first phase of treatment. Additionally, it can be worn to influence the position of the upper incisors by pushing them forward.

Wear

A Frankel III is worn 14 hours a day. This can be done by wearing the appliance when you are at home and while sleeping. The correction will be more stable the more the Frankel III is worn. This device is required to be worn long-term so that as you continue to undergo your growth spurt the appliance maintains the overbite. Do not wear your Frankel while eating, showering, brushing or during active sports. We will give you a score card to help you keep track of the hours worn each day. Please post this in a prominent location at home and be sure to bring it with you to each appointment.

Cleaning

It is important to keep your appliance clean. Plaque and tartar can build up around the edges of the appliance. After eating, brush your teeth then brush the appliance with toothpaste and put it back in your mouth.

Tenderness

Since the Frankel is applying pressure, the teeth and cheeks may become sore for several days. This feeling is very common as the teeth and mouth are getting used to the appliance. It is very important to be consistent and wear the appliance every day. Missed days allow the teeth and jaw to shift back and, thus, the stability of the results may become affected; it also results in another few days of soreness as the teeth readjust to the appliance.

Caution

Please be careful with your Frankel III. It should not be worn during rough play where it might be bumped. Before eating, put the appliance in its case and always keep it in a safe area away from dogs that may bite and chew it (they like the scent). Keep the case at room temperature as extremes of hot and cold can distort the appliance.

Other Things

Bring your Frankel III to each appointment so that it can be checked and adjusted. If you have any problems with your appliance, please call our office so that we can help you. Do not play with the appliance while it is in or out of your mouth. If the appliance is broken or does not feel right, call the office immediately for an appointment to have it adjusted. A lab fee will be charged for loss or breakage of the appliance.

Parting Words

When patients use the Frankel III according to our recommendations, they have had very encouraging results. Our best wishes to you as you begin an exciting journey towards a super smile!