

HELPFUL TIPS FROM GRIFFIN DENTAL LAB

## Sending a Partial Dental/Cast Partial Repair to the Lab

- 1. Take a bite.** – Just in case it can't be hand articulated. Often old partials are so worn, they don't perfectly occlude. A thin blue mousse bite will usually suffice. Not a glob of material. And not putty. Make sure teeth contact teeth.
- 2. Opposing model.** – The lab might not need this if it's a broken partial. But then again, they might! If they are adding or replacing a tooth, you'll never be sorry for sending them this information because there will be that opposing occlusal surface to work with. Without it, the technician is throwing darts at an invisible dart board.
- 3. A shade.** – If a shade doesn't come with the repair, the best that can be done is to match those existing denture teeth on the old partial. They may not match the remaining dentition.
- 4. A pickup impression.** – This is the most important part! That partial must fit on something! If you provide just a naked impression of the arch, there is no way that partial frame will fit on a stone model. Soft tissue differences as well as undercuts will prevent that framework from seating, resulting in that dreaded call back. Pull that partial so it can be poured up within the new impression. Take this impression in a medium bodied PVS material! You'll never be upset that you invested a little more into a stable material to hold that partial in place. An alginate may rip and tear as you pull it from the mouth, and then you have to deal with properly re-seating the partial back into a torn, possibly inaccurate impression. A heavy bodied material can displace the soft tissue and cause the repair not to fit.