

Impression Troubleshooting Tips



Margins Complete but Not Sharp

CAUSES	SOLUTIONS
Thick blood/saliva pooled around the preparation	Rinse and dry the prepared area and stop any bleeding by using appropriate retraction technique and a hemostatic agent. Liquids or pastes based on aluminum chloride, aluminum sulfate, or iron sulfate are suitable hemostatic agents.
Insufficient retraction	Retract gingival tissue to entirely capture the prepared area. Retraction cords as well as retraction pastes are suitable.
Inhibition of setting due to use of acidic retraction materials/hemostatic agents like aluminum or ferric salts	Thoroughly rinse preparation with water and dry before taking the impression.
Inhibition of setting of VPS impression materials due to contact with sulfur from latex gloves	Use gloves which do not contain traces of sulfur, e.g. nitrile gloves.
Working time exceeded, flowability already impaired	<p>Select material with sufficient working time (i.e. regular set instead of fast set). Make a choice depending on the individual situation and preference of material. Do not exceed working times given in the instructions for use. In case of 3M Dental materials follow given intra-oral syringing times for wash materials.</p> <p>Pay attention to storage temperature. Working times are reduced due to higher temperatures of the product, while intra-oral setting times might be longer if the temperature of the product is lower.</p>
Impression material stored at too low temperature	Temperature influences the viscosity. Store impression material at room temperature. Lower temperatures might lead to higher viscosities.
Incorrect storage conditions of the final impression	After disinfection rinse impressions with water and dry before sending it to the lab. Store impressions at room temperature and away from direct sunlight.
Inadequate disinfection	Use recommended disinfectants. Follow the manufacturers' instructions for use. Do not exceed the immersion time.

Download 3M's tips at www.3M.com/GreatImpressions

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