

## HomeTown Dental FAQ

**Q. What can cause cavities?**

A. All of our mouths contain bacteria. However, when you eat sugary foods and don't brush right away, the bacteria produce acids that eat through the enamel on the teeth.

**Q. At what age should my child have dental x-rays taken?**

A. Your child should get his or her first set of dental x-rays between the ages of 2 and 3. Your child will need to get yearly x-rays after the baby teeth start touching. We will continue to take x-rays when the permanent teeth come in, which is around 6 years of age. These x-rays will help us determine if the teeth and jaw are properly aligned and healthy.

**Q. When should my child start going to the dentist?**

A. According to the [American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry](#), your child should start going to the dentist after getting his or her first tooth or when he or she turns one. Choose whichever one happens first. [Contact us](#) if your child is ready for a dental visit.

**Q. How often does my child need to go to the dentist?**

A. As a general rule, you should take your child to the dentist every six months.

**Q. How often should I see a dentist?**

A. Once every 6 months is good for most people, but some people with special conditions may need to see their dentist more often. Schedule an appointment to find out what's best for you.

**Q. How often should I change my toothbrush?**

A. Every 3 months or sooner if the bristles become worn and frayed. If you've been sick with a cold or other bacterial infection, it's wise to replace your toothbrush once you're better.

**Q. What should I do if I have an emergency?**

A. Please call our office as soon as you determine that you have a dental emergency. We will be glad to work you in to our schedule if you have a dental emergency during regular business hours.

**Q. Are payment plans available for my dental treatment?**

A. At HomeTown Dental we make dental cleanings affordable. We offer the HomeTown Dental Plan that is available to everyone, with or without insurance. We also accept Medicaid, Chips and PPO dental insurance. For a full list of insurances, [click here](#).

**Q. Is it safe to have my teeth cleaned while pregnant?**

A. Yes! According to the [American Pregnancy Association](#), preventive dental cleanings and annual exams during pregnancy are not only safe, but are recommended. Your hormone levels rise during pregnancy and can cause the gums to swell, bleed, and trap food causing increased irritation to your gums.

**Q. Can I have dental work done while pregnant?**

A. The safest course of action is to postpone all unnecessary dental work until after the birth. If dental work is done during pregnancy, the second trimester is ideal. However, sometimes emergency dental work, such as a root canal or tooth extraction, is necessary. Elective treatments, such as teeth whitening and other cosmetic procedures, should be postponed until after the birth.

**Q. Does HomeTown Dental offer teeth whitening?**

Yes! HomeTown Dental's teeth whitening procedure will make your smile shine. Patients can expect their teeth to be anywhere between four and six shades whiter after having this treatment at HomeTown Dental.