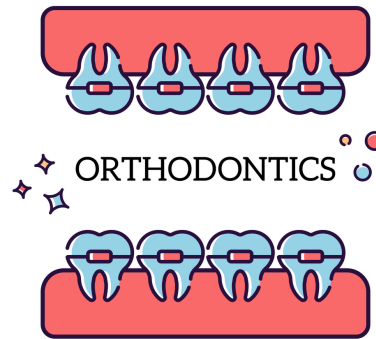


# Orthodontics terminology cheat sheet

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## Orthodontics

Specialized branch of dentistry focused on diagnosing, preventing, and treating dental and facial irregularities. It corrects misaligned teeth and jaws to enhance oral function, bite, and aesthetics.



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## Common Orthodontic Conditions

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- \* **Malocclusions:** Misalignment of upper and lower teeth, impacting function and appearance.
  - \* **Gaps (Diastema):** Spaces between teeth, commonly seen in the upper front teeth.
  - \* **Overcrowding:** Lack of space in the jaw causes teeth to overlap or push together, impacting alignment and hygiene.
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## Types of Orthodontics

- **Adult Orthodontics:** Addresses alignment issues in adults, often using braces or clear aligners. Involves comprehensive assessments like X-rays.
- **Child Orthodontics:** Focuses on alignment in children and teens during growth periods to ensure proper jaw and teeth alignment.

## Common Orthodontic Devices

- **Braces:** Apply continuous pressure to gradually move teeth into the desired position, improving function and aesthetics.
- **Clear Aligners (e.g., Invisalign):** Removable, nearly invisible aligners that straighten teeth comfortably. Ideal for adults and teens.
- **Retainers:** Maintain teeth alignment post-treatment, preventing teeth from shifting back.