

Your Appliance:

DIRECT BONDING:

The bracket is cemented directly to the tooth surface.

BAND:

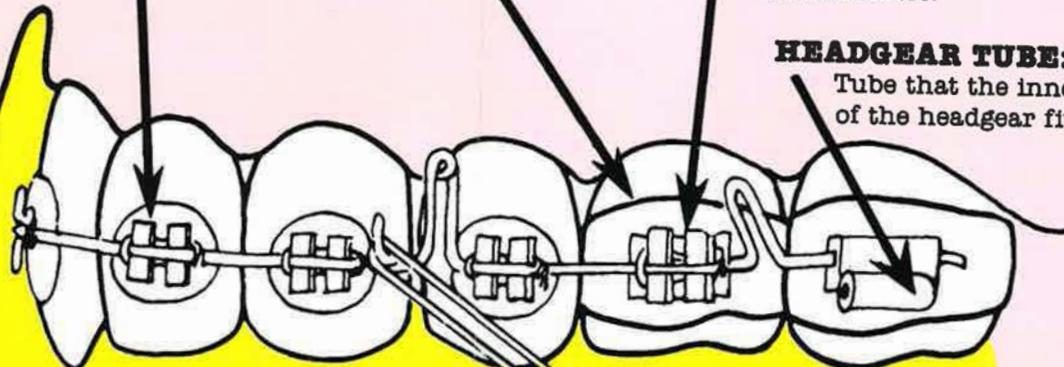
Thin ring of metal around each tooth. Its purpose is to give a way to attach the brackets, wires, etc. to the tooth.

BRACKET:

Small attachment that holds the archwire in place. There are two types of brackets: EDGEWISE (shown here) and BEGG (which use small pins instead of tie wires to hold the archwire). Note: in direct bonding, the bracket is attached directly to the tooth surface.

HEADGEAR TUBE:

Tube that the inner bow of the headgear fits into.



ARCHWIRE:

The main wire that acts like a track along which the teeth are guided.

ELASTICS:

Rubber bands that are hooked between two different points to give pressure to move teeth.

BUCCAL TUBE:

Holds the end of the archwire safely in place.

TIE WIRES (ligatures):

Fine wires that hold the archwire to the brackets. Elastic ligatures (tiny rubber bands) can also be used.

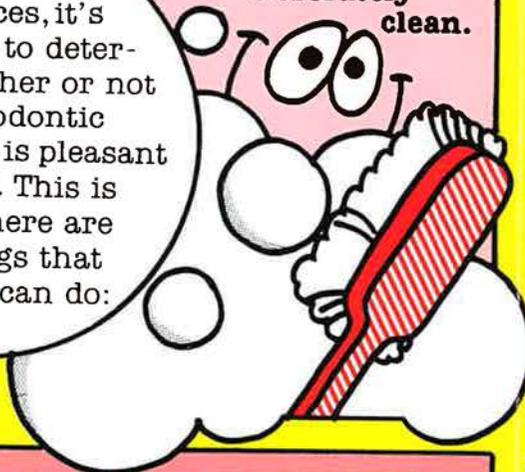
IT'S UP TO YOU!



Now that you are in braces, it's up to you to determine whether or not your orthodontic treatment is pleasant and quick. This is because there are some things that only you can do:

1

Keeping your mouth absolutely clean.



2

Not breaking the braces. They are strong but can be broken by carelessness.



3

Being on time for all appointments.



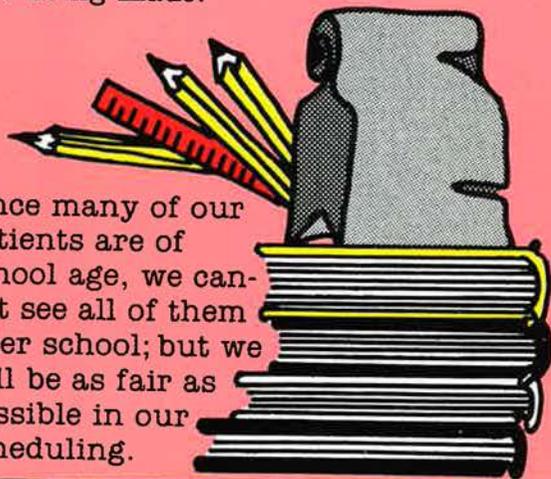
4

Following instructions.



APPOINTMENTS:

Ordinarily we expect your treatment to last 18 to 30 months. During that time you will have office appointments at scheduled intervals. Most appointments are short, routine adjustments. Your appointments will take longer, however, when bands are being cemented or complex archwires are being made.



Since many of our patients are of school age, we cannot see all of them after school; but we will be as fair as possible in our scheduling.

A few days after the braces are placed, there may be some soreness in your mouth and your teeth will feel loose. This is nature telling you the teeth have started to move. The discomfort will soon go away. Analgesics will help.



Sometimes a small 'tie wire' (see back of pamphlet) may turn up and begin to hurt. This can be turned down again with a blunt instrument like a pencil eraser, a spoon, or even a Q-tip.

SOS!



When archwires, bands, or brackets are broken or loosened, it ordinarily means that we need to see you right away. At any rate call us and use the picture of your orthodontic appliance on the back of this pamphlet to describe the broken part. We can then tell you if you need to come to the office.