



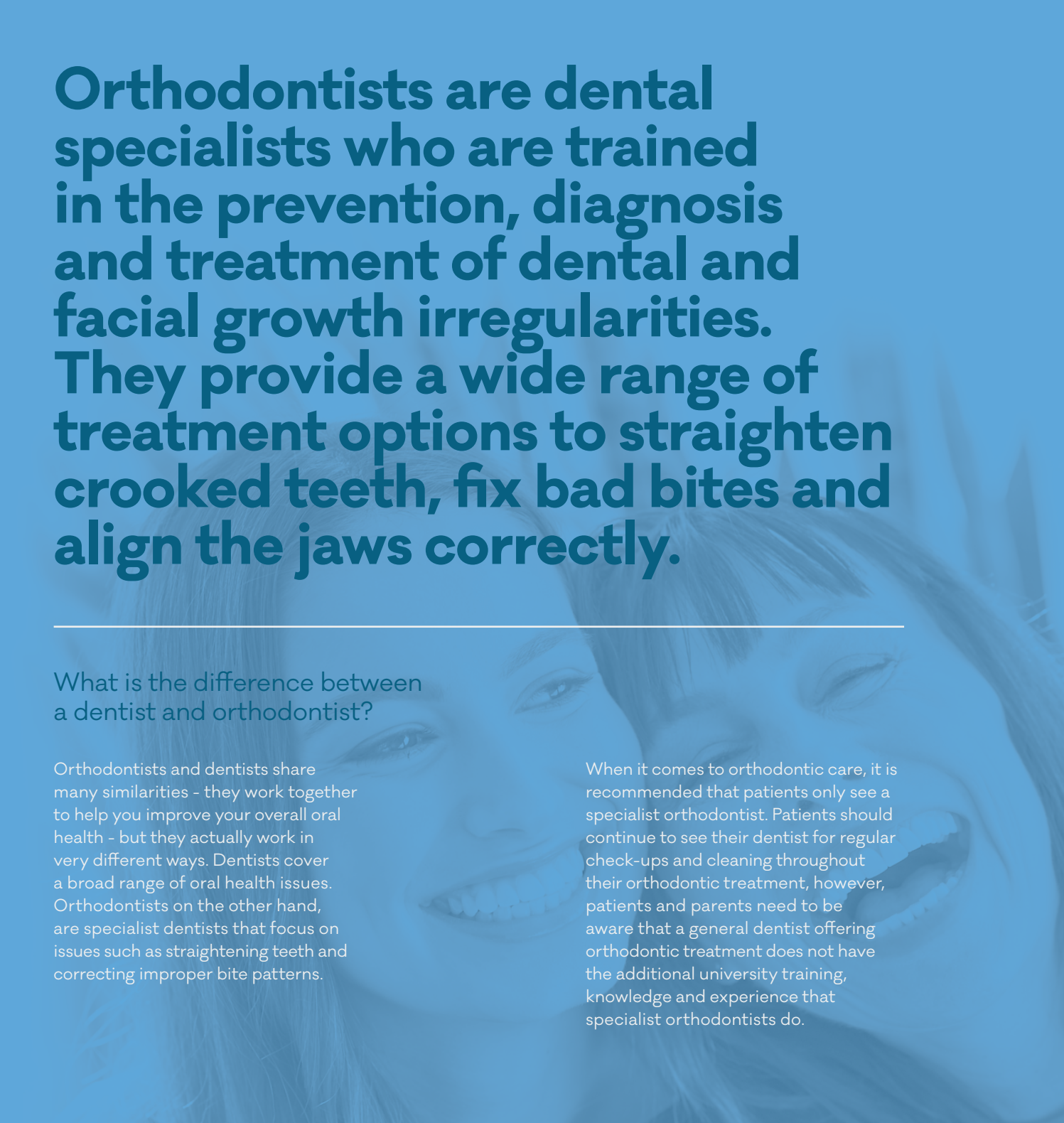
Orthodontics  
Australia



# What is an Orthodontist?



Australian Society  
of Orthodontists



# Orthodontists are dental specialists who are trained in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of dental and facial growth irregularities. They provide a wide range of treatment options to straighten crooked teeth, fix bad bites and align the jaws correctly.

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What is the difference between a dentist and orthodontist?

Orthodontists and dentists share many similarities - they work together to help you improve your overall oral health - but they actually work in very different ways. Dentists cover a broad range of oral health issues. Orthodontists on the other hand, are specialist dentists that focus on issues such as straightening teeth and correcting improper bite patterns.

When it comes to orthodontic care, it is recommended that patients only see a specialist orthodontist. Patients should continue to see their dentist for regular check-ups and cleaning throughout their orthodontic treatment, however, patients and parents need to be aware that a general dentist offering orthodontic treatment does not have the additional university training, knowledge and experience that specialist orthodontists do.

# How do they compare?

Orthodontist	Dentist
<p><b>General Dental Degree</b> + <b>Three year specialist orthodontic degree</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Facial growth and dental development expert</li><li>• Diagnoses and treats crooked teeth, bad bites and poorly aligned jaws</li><li>• Provider of all orthodontic treatment options for all ages</li></ul>	<p><b>General Dental Degree</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dental health expert</li><li>• Diagnoses and treats diseases of teeth, gums and mouth</li><li>• Provider of general dental care for all ages</li></ul>