

## Prosthetic Dentistry Glossary

### A

<b>abrasion</b> (dental)	Loss of tooth substance or of a restoration, caused by wear not due to tooth contact.
<b>abrasive</b>	A substance used for abrading, grinding or preparing a surface for polishing.
<b>absorption</b>	The taking up of fluids or other substances into the body of a material or tissue.
<b>abutment</b>	A tooth, root, or superstructure of an implant used for the support or anchorage of a fixed or removable dental prosthesis.
<b>acrylic resin</b> poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA)	The most commonly used polymer for denture bases. Acrylic resin is composed of a chain of methacrylate molecules linked together to form poly(methyl methacrylate) (PMMA). There are two versions – chemically activated and heat activated.
<b>adhesion</b>	The physical force that attracts certain dissimilar molecules when in close approximation.
<b>adjustable articulator</b>	An articulator that can be adjusted to accommodate records of positions or movements of the mandible.
<b>alar-tragal line</b> (Camper's line)	A line passing through the inferior border of the ala of the nose and the superior border of the tragus of the ear. [This line is approximately parallel to the occlusal plane of the natural teeth]
<b>alginate</b> hydrocolloid impression material	Irreversible hydrocolloid consisting of sols of alginic acid with a physical state that is changed by an irreversible chemical reaction to form an insoluble calcium alginate.
<b>altered cast</b>	A master cast that is altered by partial replacement with a cast of an additional impression.
<b>alveolar ridge</b> (residual ridge)	The remaining part of the bony process and the covering tissues which once supported the teeth.

<b>alveolectomy</b>	Surgical reduction of the residual alveolar process.
<b>alveolotomy</b>	The fracturing and moulding of the alveolar process following the removal of the interdental septa.
<b>anatomical tooth</b>	An artificial tooth with a crown form simulating that of a natural tooth.
<b>angular cheilitis</b>	Inflammation of the corners of the mouth. [May occur when the dentures fail to provide adequate lip support.]
<b>anodontia</b>	Total absence of the teeth due to developmental failure.
<b>Applegate technique</b>	Similar to the altered cast technique, but using impression waxes.
<b>arcon articulator</b>	An articulator in which the condylar analogue is carried on the mandibular element, and the condylar track on the maxillary component. [This contrasts with non-arcon articulators, in which the condylar analogue is attached to the maxillary component and the track to the mandibular element.]
<b>arrow-point tracing</b> gothic arch tracing needle-point tracing	A horizontal tracing, which resembles an arrowhead or a gothic arch, made by a tracing device. [This represents the posterior border movement of the mandible and its apex the most retruded position of the mandible.]
<b>articulation</b>	See dental articulation.
<b>articulator</b>	A hinged instrument, to which the maxillary and mandibular casts are attached, and which reproduces recorded relationships of the mandible to the maxilla. [Certain articulators reproduce recorded movements of the mandible.] Articulators assist the study of occlusion and the formation of the occlusal surfaces of prostheses and restorations.

<b>attrition (dental)</b>	The loss by wear of tooth substance or of a restoration resulting from mastication or from contact between occluding or approximal surfaces.
<b>autopolymerizing acrylic resin</b> self-cure acrylic resin	Inaccurate: see cold curing acrylic resin
<b>average value articulator</b>	An articulator with a fixed condylar guide angle.
<b>B</b>	
<b>backing</b>	A metal component covering the palatal or lingual surface of a denture tooth or artificial crown.
<b>balanced articulation</b>	Simultaneous contacts of the occluding surfaces of the teeth during function.
<b>balanced occlusion</b>	Simultaneous contacts of the occluding surfaces of the teeth in various jaw positions.
<b>balancing side</b>	See non-working side.
<b>bar connector</b>	A bar joining two or more parts of a partial denture.
<b>bar attachment</b>	A bar joining two or more teeth, roots or implant super-structures and supporting and retaining a denture.
<b>baseplate</b>	The temporary or permanent denture base on which an occlusal rim is built or on which a trial denture is set up.
<b>Bennett angle</b>	The angle between the sagittal plane and the path of the advancing condyle during lateral mandibular movement as viewed along the horizontal plane. [Bennett N G (1908) Proc. R. Soc. Med.1: 79]
<b>Bennett movement</b> lateral bodily shift	The lateral translation of the mandible during a lateral excursion. [Bennett N G (1908) Proc. R. Soc. Med.1: 79]
<b>bite registration material</b> (deprecated)	A material used to register the relationship between maxillary and mandibular teeth or

<b>occlusal registration material</b>	occlusal rims.
<b>Bonwill triangle</b>	A 4 inch (102mm) equilateral triangle postulated by Bonwill. It is formed by the medial contact-point of the mandibular central incisors and the centres of the condyles. [Bonwill W G A (1899). Dent. Items Int. 21:617]
<b>border moulding</b> muscle trimming (deprecated)	The shaping of an impression material by the manipulation or activity of the soft tissues adjacent to the borders of the denture bearing area.
<b>border movement</b>	A movement of the mandible along the extremity of its range, in any direction.
<b>border seal</b> peripheral seal (deprecated)	The contact between the denture border and the adjacent tissues which prevents the passage of air.
<b>bounded saddle</b>	A saddle limited at each end by a natural tooth.
<b>boxing</b> (of an impression)	The provision of a wall, usually of wax, attached to the perimeter of an impression, to contain the cast material until it is set.
<b>bracing</b>	Resistance to horizontal components of force.
<b>bracing arm</b>	A component of a partial denture used to resist lateral displacing forces.
<b>buccal</b>	Pertaining to or adjacent to the cheek.
<b>C</b>	
<b>Camper's line</b>	Eponym - see alar-tragal line
<b>canine guidance</b>	The guidance provided during the movement of the mandibular canines over the palatal surfaces of the maxillary canines.
<b>cast</b> (dental, oral or facial)	A reproduction of the surface form of oral or facial tissues obtained from an impression.
<b>cast</b> (verb)	To form a cast from an impression or to form a casting in a mould.

<b>casting</b>	An object, usually of metal, formed in a mould.
<b>casting ring</b>	A metal tube in which a refractory mould is made to cast metal restorations or appliances.
<b>central bearing device</b>	A device that provides a central point of bearing or support between the maxillary and mandibular arches. [Used in making intraoral or extraoral mandibular tracings]. See also arrow point tracing
<b>central bearing point</b>	The stylus of a central bearing device
<b>centric jaw relation</b> centric relation (deprecated)	See retruded jaw relation
<b>centric occlusion</b>	See intercuspal occlusion
<b>check record</b> check bite (deprecated)	An interocclusal record made to verify a previous interocclusal record.
<b>Christensen's phenomenon</b> Christensen's cleft	A gap which appears between the posterior ends of opposing flat occlusal rims when the mandible is protruded. Note: Reference: Christensen C. 'A rational articulator', Ash's Circular, 1901, pp 409-420.
<b>cingulum</b>	A bulbous convexity near the cervical margin of the crown of a tooth, typically found on the palatal or lingual surfaces of incisors and canines.
<b>circumferential clasp</b> occlusally-approaching clasp	A clasp lying in contact with the surface of the tooth which originates on the occlusal side of the survey line and passes across it.
<b>clasp</b>	A metal arm that, when in contact with a tooth, retains and/or stabilises a partial denture.
<b>cohesion</b>	The attraction of like molecules within a substance.
<b>cold curing acrylic resin</b>	An acrylic resin whose polymerisation is initiated by a chemical activator without

applying heat.

**compensating curves**

The curvatures of the occlusal plane of dentures created to compensate for the effects of Christensen's phenomenon.

**complete denture**

A denture replacing the entire maxillary or mandibular dentition and the lost associated tissues.

**condylar path angle**  
condylar angle (deprec)

The angle between the sagittal projection of the condylar path and the Frankfort plane.

**condylar axis**

Any line through either mandibular condyle, about which the mandible may rotate.

**condylar guide**  
condylar track

That part of an articulator which guides its condylar element.

**condylar guide angle**  
condylar track angle

The angle of inclination of the condylar guide to the horizontal plane or other reference plane.

**condylar path**

Any path travelled by the mandibular condyle during the various mandibular movements.

**connector**

A part of a partial denture that unites other components.

**copy denture**

A technique where previous dentures are used to reproduce the same form of polished surface in the new dentures.

**coronal plane**  
frontal plane

Any plane passing through the body at right angles to the sagittal plane.

**crazing**

A network of fine cracks in the surface layers of acrylic polymers and porcelains

**cross bite**

A deviation from the usual bucco-lingual relationship, which may be anterior or posterior and unilateral or bilateral.

**cross linking**

The linking of polymer chains by chemical bonds effected by di- or poly-functional groups. Cross linking increases the elastic modulus, hardness, brittleness, and solvent resistance, and increases the glass transition temperature.

<b>curve of Monson</b>	The curve of the occlusion of natural teeth in which each cusp and incisal edge touches or conforms to a segment of the surface of a sphere 4 inches (102mm) in radius with its centre in the region of the glabella.
<b>curve of Spee</b>	An arc of a circle 65mm to 70mm radius that touches the tips of all the mandibular teeth when the skull is viewed laterally; when continued it touches the anterior surface of the condyles.
<b>cusp angle</b>	The angle between the slope of the cusp and the horizontal plane. [According to this definition the higher the cusp angle the steeper the cusp].
<b>D</b>	
<b>deflective occlusal contact</b>	A tooth-to-tooth contact that changes the direction of mandibular movement during closure.
<b>dental arch</b>	The curved structure incorporating the dentition or the residual ridge.
<b>dental articulation</b>	The contact relations between maxillary and mandibular teeth during jaw movement.
<b>dental bar</b> lingual dental connector	A major connector which lies on the lingual surfaces of the anterior teeth.
<b>dental implant</b>	An endosteal or subperiosteal implant used to support a crown, bridge or denture.
<b>dental prosthesis</b>	An artificial replacement for one or more teeth and/or associated structures.
<b>dentate</b>	Having natural teeth.
<b>dentition</b>	The natural teeth in the dental arches.
<b>denture</b>	A removable dental prosthesis replacing natural teeth and their associated tissues.
<b>denture adhesive</b>	A material used to improve denture retention.
<b>denture base</b>	That part of the denture which rests on the denture-bearing area of the oral mucosa.

<b>denture-bearing area</b>	Those surfaces of the teeth and edentulous ridges covered by a denture.
<b>denture border</b>	The periphery of the denture base lying at the limits of anatomical extension.
<b>denture retention</b>	Resistance of a denture to vertical movement away from the tissues.
<b>denture space</b>	A potential space in the mouth, limited by the tongue, lips and cheeks and residual alveolar ridges, which the denture should occupy. Ref : Brill N, Tryde G, Cantor R. The dynamic nature of the lower denture space. J Prosthet Dent 1965 ; <b>15</b> : 401-418
<b>denture stability</b>	The resistance of a denture to displacement by functional forces.
<b>diastema</b> (pl diastemas)	A space between two adjacent teeth in the same dental arch.
<b>direct retainer</b>	A component of a partial denture that resists dislodgement along the path of withdrawal.
<b>direct retention</b>	The retention of a partial denture by the use of direct retainers.
<b>duplicate cast</b>	An exact copy of a working cast onto which the technologist can finish a framework casting without damage to the existing working cast.
<b>E</b>	
<b>eccentric jaw relation</b>	See lateral or protrusive jaw relation.
<b>eccentric occlusion</b>	See lateral or protrusive occlusion.
<b>edentulous</b>	Without natural teeth.
<b>embrasure</b>	The space between two teeth which opens out from their contact point.
<b>endosteal implant</b> endosseous implant	An implant, usually made of metal, which is inserted into bone. An endosteal implant



usually has three parts;

1. a **body** which is surgically placed in the bone.

2. an **abutment** which supports and/or retains the prosthesis or superstructure

3. a **superstructure** to which other components are attached.]

**envelope of function**

The three-dimensional space contained within the envelope of motion that defines mandibular movement during masticatory function and/or speech.

**envelope of movement**

The three-dimensional space circumscribed by border movements of a given point of the mandible.

**extra-coronal attachment**

A precision attachment jointed to a restoration and situated outside the coronal contour of an abutment tooth.

**extra-oral tracing**

An arrow-point tracing made on a tracer, part of which extends outside the mouth.

**F**

**face-bow**

An instrument used to record the relation of the maxillae to the hinge axis of rotation of the mandible. [It enables a similar relation to be established between a maxillary cast and the hinge axis of the articulator.]

**facial seal**

The seal created by contact of the lips and cheeks with the polished surface of a denture.

**final impression**

master impression  
working impression  
second impression

The impression used for making the master cast.

**fit (of a denture)**

This word is commonly used to describe the adaptation of the dentures to the supporting tissues or to identify the stage at which the patient receives the dentures.

**fitting surface**

See tissue surface.

<b>fixed dental prosthesis</b>	A dental prosthesis which is attached to natural teeth, tooth roots or implants, and cannot be removed by the patient.
<b>flange</b> (denture)	That part of the denture base which covers the labial, buccal or lingual surfaces of the alveolar ridge and is limited by the sulcus reflection.
<b>flask</b> (denture)	(1) (noun). A sectional case that contains and supports the mould in which dentures are formed. (2) (verb). To invest a denture pattern in a flask
<b>flash</b>	An excess of acrylic resin trapped between the two halves of a denture flask during processing which may lead to an increase in occlusal vertical dimension if not dealt with.
<b>foveae palatini</b> foveae palati	Pits situated near the junction of hard and soft palates, usually one on either side of the mid-line.
<b>framework</b> (denture)	A metallic partial denture base to which other components are attached.
<b>Frankfort plane</b>	A plane passing through the lowest point in the margin of the left orbit (orbitale) and the highest point in the margin of each external auditory meatus (porion). [It approximates to the horizontal when the head is in a normal upright position].
<b>free articulation</b> unobstructed articulation	Articulation that is unobstructed by cuspal interference.
<b>free-end saddle</b> distal extension saddle distal extension base	A partial denture saddle having no natural tooth distal to it.
<b>frenum</b> (lat n pl frena)	A fibrous tissue band, covered by mucous membrane, which passes between the alveolar process and the lip, cheek or tongue.
<b>functional impression</b>	An impression modified by masticatory loads and adjacent muscular activity. [See also mucodisplacing impression.]

## G

<b>gerodontics</b>	The treatment of dental problems of aging persons.
<b>gingivally-approaching clasp</b> bar clasp roach clasp infrabulge clasp	A clasp whose arm approaches a tooth from the direction of the gingivae.
<b>gnathodynamometer</b>	An instrument for measuring the force exerted in closing the jaws.
<b>gnathology</b>	The study of the functions of the jaws and related disorders
<b>group function</b>	Multiple contacts between the maxillary and mandibular teeth on the working side during lateral movements.
<b>guiding planes</b>	Two or more parallel tooth surfaces which determine the path of insertion and withdrawal of a partial denture.

## H

<b>high lip-line</b>	The highest level which the margin of the upper lip achieves in function.
<b>high impact denture base resins</b>	A denture base material formulated to have higher resistance to fracture by impact or fatigue.
<b>hinge articulator</b> plain-line articulator (deprec)	An articulator with a hinge joint and which permits only vertical movement.
<b>hinge axis</b>	A transverse axis about which the mandible can rotate without translatory movement of the condyles.
<b>hinge axis locator</b> kinematic face-bow adjustable axis face-bow hinge bow	A device, with adjustable side arms, which is attached to the mandible and used to locate the retruded hinge axis.
<b>hinge movement</b>	An opening or closing movement of the mandible about the hinge axis.
<b>horizontal overlap</b> overjet	A buccal or labial projection of the maxillary teeth beyond the mandibular teeth.

<b>hypodontia</b> oligodontia partial anodontia (deprec)	Absence of some teeth.
<b>I</b>	
<b>immediate replacement denture</b>	A denture fitted immediately after the removal of natural teeth.
<b>implant denture</b>	A denture that is fitted to an implant denture superstructure
<b>implant abutment</b>	See endosteal implant
<b>implant body</b> implant fixture	See endosteal implant
<b>implant superstructure</b>	See endosteal implant
<b>impression</b>	A negative imprint from which a positive reproduction, or cast, can be made.
<b>impression compound</b>	A thermoplastic impression material.
<b>impression surface</b>	See tissue surface
<b>impression tray</b>	A metal or plastic receptacle used to transport, control, and support an impression material.
<b>incisal angle</b>	The angle formed with the horizontal plane by the line between the incisal edges of the maxillary and mandibular central incisors when the teeth are in intercuspal occlusion.
<b>incisal guidance</b>	The guidance provided by the surfaces of the maxillary incisors in lateral and protrusive movements of the mandible.
<b>incisal guide</b> <b>incisal table</b>	That part of an articulator which maintains the incisal angle
<b>indirect retention</b>	The retention obtained by the extension of a partial denture base to provide the fulcrum of a class II lever. [The retainer(s) providing direct retention lie between the fulcrum and that part of the denture which is subject to the displacing force].

<b>infra-orbital pointer</b> infra-orbital indicator	The component of a face-bow that records the infra-orbital margin and thereby aligns it with the Frankfort plane.
<b>initial contact</b>	The first meeting of occluding surfaces.
<b>Inter-alveolar distance</b> inter-ridge distance	The vertical distance between specified positions on the maxillary and mandibular alveolar ridges at the occlusal vertical dimension.
<b>intercondylar axis</b>	The line joining the rotational centres of the condyles.
<b>intercuspal occlusion</b> maximum intercuspation centric occlusion	Maximal contact between opposing teeth.
<b>intercuspal position</b> tooth position (deprec)	The position of the mandible when the teeth are in intercuspal occlusion.
<b>intercuspatation</b>	The interdigitation of cusps of opposing teeth
<b>interocclusal</b>	Between opposing occlusal surfaces.
<b>interocclusal clearance</b> freeway space	The space between the maxillary and mandibular occlusal surfaces when the mandible is in the rest position.
<b>interocclusal record</b>	A record of a specified relation of opposing occlusal surfaces. [The records may be intercuspal, retrusive, protrusive, lateral, and either contact or pre-contact.]
<b>intra-coronal attachment</b>	A precision attachment, one part of which is totally embedded in a restoration.
<b>intra-oral tracing</b>	A tracing made within the oral cavity, usually by a central bearing device.
<b>invest</b>	To surround or embed in an investment material.
<b>investment model</b>	A duplicate cast constructed in a refractory material onto which a cobalt/chromium wax pattern is laid down.
<b>J</b>	
<b>jaw relation</b>	A relation of the mandible to the maxilla.

## **K**

**Kennedy bar**  
continuous clasp

A narrow bar lying in contact with the lingual surfaces of the teeth and occlusally to the cingula. [This may provide indirect retention for a partial denture.]

## **L**

**labial bar**

A major connector of a partial denture which is placed between the gingival margin and the reflection of the labial sulcus

**lateral excursion**

A lateral movement of the mandible with the opposing teeth in contact.

**lateral interocclusal record**

An interocclusal record made with the mandible in a lateral position.

**lateral or protrusive jaw relation**

Any jaw relation that is lateral or protrusive to the retruded jaw relation.

**lateral or protrusive occlusion**

Any occlusion that is not the intercuspal occlusion.

**lingual bar**

A major connector of a mandibular partial denture which is placed between the gingival margin and the floor of the mouth.

**lingual plate**

A major connector of a partial denture which covers part of the lingual surfaces of the crowns of the lower anterior teeth and the lingual gingival tissues.

**lingual rest**

A rest placed on the lingual surface of an anterior tooth.

**lingualised occlusion**

Where the maxillary teeth are placed buccally to the crest of the ridge so that occlusion only occurs between the palatal cusps of the uppers and the central fossae of the lowers, except for the first premolars where the situation is reversed. This occlusion has one upper tooth only contacting with its lower counterpart and not contacting any other tooth.

**lip line**

A line denoting the position of the upper lip margin.

**lost wax casting** Where a wax pattern is coated in an investment material. After the investment has set the wax is removed by heat and replaced by the alloy.

## **M**

**major connector** A plate or bar which unites partial denture saddles.

**mandibular lateral translation** The non-rotational component of lateral mandibular movement.

**marginal ridge** A ridge situated at the mesial or distal border of the occlusal surface of a premolar or molar tooth. It may be found on the lingual surface of an anterior tooth.

**master cast** A cast produced from a final impression.

**mastication** Chewing.

**masticatory system** The oral structures engaged in mastication.

**matrix**  
1. The female component of a precision attachment.  
2. An overcast.

**minor connector** The connecting component between the major connector or base of a partial denture and other units, such as clasps and rests.

**model** A positive likeness, at any scale, of some form. [The word model should not be used as a synonym for a dental cast]

**modiolus** The decussation of facial muscles distal to the corners of the mouth. [It stabilises the cheeks and lips during oral function.  
Reference: Lightoller G H S (1925) J.Anat.**110** ;1-85.]

**mould** A form in which an object is cast or shaped.

**mount (a cast)** To attach a cast to an articulator

**mounting (of a cast)** The means of attachment of a cast to an articulator.

<b>mouth guard</b>	An appliance worn to protect the teeth from injury arising from an impact.
<b>mucodisplacive impression</b> mucocompressive impression (deprec)	An impression made with the intention of displacing soft tissues under the denture base. [See also functional impression.]
<b>mucostatic impression</b>	An impression made with the intention of minimising mucosal displacement.
<b>N</b>	
<b>neutral zone</b> (see also denture space)	A zone in which the forces of the cheeks and lips are said to be in equilibrium with those of the tongue.
<b>non-anatomic tooth</b> cusplless tooth inverted cusp tooth zero-degree tooth	A prosthetic posterior tooth whose occlusal features do not correspond to human dental anatomy.
<b>non-working side</b> balancing side contralateral side	The side opposite to the working side.
<b>non-working side contacts</b> balancing contacts	The contacts between maxillary and mandibular teeth or denture bases on the non-working side, or posteriorly in a protrusive occlusion.
<b>O</b>	
<b>obturator (dental)</b>	A dental prosthesis, or part of a dental prosthesis, used to close a congenital or acquired opening.
<b>occlude</b>	To bring the mandibular and maxillary teeth into contact.
<b>occluding surfaces</b>	Those surfaces of the teeth, or tooth substitutes, which make contact with those in the opposing jaw. [See also occlusal surfaces.]
<b>occlusal analysis</b>	The examination of the contacts of opposing teeth.
<b>occlusal correction</b> occlusal adjustment occlusal equilibration	The improvement of occlusal contacts.



<b>occlusal interference</b>	An undesirable contact between opposing teeth.
<b>occlusal overlay</b> bite guard (deprec) bite raising appliance (deprec)	An appliance or part of an appliance that covers the occlusal surfaces of the teeth.
<b>occlusal path</b>	The path of movement of one occluding surface over the other.
<b>occlusal pivot</b>	An elevation artificially developed on the occlusal surface, usually in the molar region.
<b>occlusal plane</b> plane of occlusion	A common plane established by the incisal edges and occlusal surfaces of the teeth. [This is usually curved and is therefore not strictly a plane]
<b>occlusal rest</b>	See rest.
<b>occlusal splint</b>	A temporary appliance involving occlusal coverage of the teeth used in the treatment of temporomandibular disorders.
<b>occlusal surfaces</b>	The surfaces of molar or premolar teeth which would normally occlude with an opposing tooth.
<b>occlusal table</b>	The occlusal surfaces and incisal edges of the dental arch.
<b>occlusal vertical dimension</b> occlusal facial height	Any vertical dimension with the teeth or occlusal rims in contact.
<b>occlusally approaching clasp</b> suprabulge clasp	A clasp whose arm approaches the undercut from the occlusal surface of the tooth.
<b>occlusion</b>	Any contact between teeth of opposing dental arches.
<b>occlusion rim</b> bite block (deprec) bite rim (deprec) occlusal record block (deprec)	A ridge of material, whose shape can be modified, attached to a temporary or permanent denture base for the purpose of recording jaw relations and indicating tooth positions.
<b>onlay</b>	(1) A metal casting which covers and is fixed to the entire occlusal surface of a tooth. (2) An occlusal rest which is extended to

	cover the entire occlusal surface of a tooth.
<b>open bite</b> incomplete occlusion	(1) A failure of some opposing teeth to occlude when the other teeth are in intercuspation (2) (deprec) An occlusal vertical dimension that is too large.
<b>overclosure</b> (deprec) reduced occlusal vertical dimension	An occlusal vertical dimension that is too small.
<b>osseointegrated implant</b>	An implant with direct connection between its surface and host bone.
<b>overbite</b> vertical overlap	The overlap of the incisor teeth in the vertical plane
<b>overcast</b>	A plaster covering applied to a dental cast.
<b>overdenture</b>	A denture the base of which covers one or more teeth, prepared roots or implants.
<b>overlay</b>	A metal or acrylic covering on the occlusal surfaces or incisal edges of natural teeth.
<b>overlay denture</b> bite raising appliance (deprec)	A denture or appliance incorporating an overlay.
<b>overjet</b> horizontal overlap	The distance between the upper and lower incisors in the horizontal plane.
<b>P</b>	
<b>packing</b> (denture)	Filling a mould with a plastic material in order to construct a dental prosthesis.
<b>palatal bar</b>	A major connector of a maxillary partial denture framework.
<b>pantograph</b> (oral)	A set of tracing devices attached to the mandible and maxilla which records mandibular movements in three planes.
<b>papilla (interdental)</b>	The interdental gingival tissue.
<b>papilla (incisive)</b>	The soft tissue covering the incisive foramen in the palate.

<b>partial denture</b>	A denture provided for a dental arch in which some, but not all, natural teeth are missing.
<b>partial denture saddle</b>	That part of the base of a partial denture which rests on, or covers, the edentulous ridge.
<b>path of insertion</b>	The path followed by a denture from its first contact with the teeth or soft tissues until it is fully seated. [The path of withdrawal is the opposite of this.]
<b>patrix</b>	The male component of a precision attachment.
<b>pattern</b>	A form used to make a mould.
<b>pear-shaped pad</b>	The most distal portion of attached keratinised mucosal overlying the crest of the mandibular ridge at the extraction site of the third molar and situated anterior to the retromolar pad.
<b>piezograph (oral)</b>	A form moulded in a suitable impression material by the tongue, lips and cheeks in edentulous areas of the mouth. It is intended to provide a functional recording of the denture space.
<b>polished surfaces</b>	A surface of the denture, usually polished, which is in contact with the lips, cheeks or tongue.
<b>polymerisation</b>	The joining of molecules of small molecular weights into a compound of large molecular weights.
<b>posterior palatal seal</b>	The seal developed at the posterior border of a maxillary denture.
<b>post dam</b>	A ridge of denture base material on the posterior border of the maxillary denture impression surface. [It usually displaces the supporting soft tissues in order to create a seal.]
<b>pourable denture base resin</b> pour resin, pour-type resin pourable denture resin	A denture base material specially formulated to allow it to flow under gravity to fill a mould

<b>precision attachment</b> prefabricated attachment	A mechanical retaining device that depends on frictional resistance between machined parallel walls of male and female parts. One component is fixed to an abutment, while the other is incorporated into a denture or bridge.
<b>premature contact</b>	An undesirable occlusal contact prior to intercuspal occlusion. [See also initial contact.]
<b>primary impression</b> preliminary impression first impression	An impression made for treatment planning or the construction of an impression tray.
<b>process</b> (verb) cure	To polymerise denture base resin in a mould.
<b>procline</b>	To tilt anterior teeth labially.
<b>prosthesis</b>	An artificial replacement of a part of the human body.
<b>prosthodontics</b> prosthetic dentistry	That part of restorative dentistry concerned with removable prostheses. [The exact definition of this term in the UK differs from that generally accepted elsewhere in Europe. This is given by the International Dental Federation/International Organisation for Standardisation (FD1/ISO) definition, as 'That branch of dentistry which is concerned with the functional and aesthetic rehabilitation of the masticatory system by artificial replacement of missing teeth and associated tissues.']
<b>prosthodontist</b> dental prosthetist	A dentist engaged in the practice of prosthodontics.
<b>protrusive interocclusal record</b>	An interocclusal record made with the mandible in a protruded position.
<b>protrusive record</b>	A record of a protruded relation of the mandible in a protruded position.
<b>provisional denture</b>	A dental prosthesis to be used for a short time prior to the construction of a definitive replacement.

## R

<b>radio-opaque denture base material</b>	A denture base material rendered opaque to X-rays applied to the tooth by the inclusion of a radio-opaque material to facilitate location in human tissue.
<b>rebase</b>	The partial or complete removal and replacement of the denture base.
<b>reciprocal arm</b>	A component of a partial denture used to oppose forces applied to a tooth by a direct retainer.
<b>relief area</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. An area on the cast on which a spacer is placed to provide relief of the denture base from the underlying mucosa.</li><li>2. A recess in the fitting surface of a denture base.</li></ol>
<b>reline</b>	The addition of material to the fitting surface of a denture base.
<b>removable dental prosthesis</b>	A dental prosthesis which can be removed by the patient.
<b>resilient lining (see soft lining)</b>	
<b>rest</b>	<p>(1) A component of a partial denture used to support the framework against vertical load. [Specific types are occlusal, incisal and cingulum rests]</p> <p>(2) A state of physiological relaxation. [See also 'rest position'.]</p>
<b>rest jaw relation</b>	The relation of the mandible to the maxilla when the mandible is in the rest position.
<b>rest position</b> (of the mandible) postural position	The position that the mandible passively assumes when the mandibular musculature is relaxed and the patient is upright.
<b>rest seat</b>	A portion of a tooth that has been prepared to receive a rest.
<b>rest vertical dimension</b> resting face height	The vertical dimension with the mandible in the rest position.

<b>retainer</b>	A component of a partial denture that used a natural tooth to secure the denture against dislodgment.
<b>retention</b>	See denture retention
<b>retentive arm</b>	A flexible component that engages an undercut on a tooth to retain a denture.
<b>retrocline</b>	To tilt an anterior tooth palatally or lingually.
<b>retromolar pad</b>	A mass of glandular tissue, covered by non-keratinised epithelium, situated on the mandible posterior to the third molars.
<b>retromylohyoid fossa</b>	A fossa on the lateral wall of the lingual sulcus posterior to the mylohyoid muscle.
<b>retruded arc of closure</b>	The arc described by any point on the mandible during a closing movement made with the condyles in their most posterior position.
<b>retruded contact position</b>	The position of the mandible on the retruded arc of closure when tooth contact first occurs.
<b>retruded jaw relation</b> centric jaw relation centric relation	The relation of the mandible to the maxilla with the mandible in its most retruded position.
<b>reverse curve</b> anti-Monson curve	A curve of the occlusal surfaces of the posterior teeth that is convex upwards in the coronal plane.
<b>reverse horizontal overlap</b>	A buccal or labial projection of the mandibular teeth beyond the maxillary teeth.
<b>reverse occlusion</b> cross bite (deprec)	An occlusal relationship of the posterior teeth with a reverse horizontal overlap.
<b>ridge augmentation</b>	A procedure for increasing the size of an atrophic ridge by means of alloplastic or bone grafts.
<b>rugae</b>	The ridges of the mucous membrane covering the anterior part of the hard palate.

## S

<b>saddle</b> denture saddle	See partial denture saddle
<b>sagittal plane</b>	An antero-posterior plane generally in, or parallel to, the median plane of the body.
<b>sectional denture</b>	A denture consisting of two or more partially or completely separable sections, connected with a mechanical device.
<b>sectional impression</b>	An impression that is made in segments.
<b>selective grinding</b> spot grinding grinding in (deprec)	The planned adjustment of the occlusal forms of teeth by grinding.
<b>silicone impression material</b>	An impression material based on an organo-siloxane polymer, in which silicon-oxygen links form the basic structure.
<b>skeleton denture</b> (deprec)	An unacceptable synonym for a partial denture with a metal base.
<b>soft lining (resilient lining)</b>	A soft, polymeric material used on the fitting surfaces of dentures to reduce trauma to the supporting tissues. It is usually composed of synthetic elastomers or plasticised acrylic polymers.
<b>split mounting</b>	A method of attaching the cast to an articulator so that it can be separated from the mounting material.
<b>stability</b>	See denture stability
<b>stress breaker</b>	A device intended to relieve abutment teeth of load.
<b>stud attachment</b>	An attachment having a stud-shaped patrix.
<b>study cast</b>	A cast used as an aid to diagnosis and treatment planning.
<b>sub-lingual bar</b>	A major connector which is placed on the floor of the mouth, occupying the functional width and depth of the sulcus.

<b>sub-periosteal implant</b>	A metal framework that lies in contact with bone and beneath the periosteum.
<b>support</b> denture support	A term used to describe the resistance of a denture to occlusally directed loads.
<b>survey</b>	The procedure carried out on a surveyor to delineate the contour and inclination of teeth and soft tissues.
<b>survey line</b>	The line on a cast indicating the maximum convexity of a tooth or the alveolar process in relation to a planned path of insertion.
<b>survey path</b>	The direction of the surveyor rod in relation to the cast orientation.
<b>surveyor</b>	An instrument used to survey casts. [It may also be used to prepare parallel surfaces on restorations]
<b>synthetic resin teeth</b> acrylic resin teeth	Artificial teeth fabricated from synthetic resin.
<b>T</b>	
<b>tissue-borne</b>	Supported by the edentulous alveolar ridge.
<b>tissue conditioning material</b>	A temporary denture lining material intended to assist the return of denture-bearing tissues to their normal condition.
<b>tissue surface</b> impression surface	The surface of the denture which is in contact with the denture-bearing area.
<b>tooth-borne</b>	Supported by teeth.
<b>tracer</b>	A device with a marking point attached to one jaw and a tracing plate attached to the other. [It is used to record jaw positions or movements]
<b>training base</b>	A denture base, usually made of heat-cured acrylic resin, provided for a patient who has difficulty in tolerating the bulk of a denture, with the intention of promoting its acceptance. Once the base is tolerated additions to it can be made to facilitate progression to a denture.



**transitional denture**

A partial denture that is progressively enlarged by adding replacements for extracted teeth until it becomes a complete denture.

**trial denture**

trial insertion  
try-in (deprec)  
set-up (deprec)

The arrangement of teeth in wax for trial insertion prior to completion of the denture.

**U****undercut**

infra-bulge (deprec)

That area of a tooth or soft tissue surface which is beyond the survey line when viewed along the survey path.

**veined denture base material**

A denture base material, to which short threads of nylon or other suitable organic filaments are added to simulate the appearance of blood vessels.

**V****vertical dimension**

(of the face)

A measurement of the face made between any two selected points, one above and one below the mouth, usually in the mid-line.

**vertical overlap**

overbite

The extension of the maxillary teeth over the mandibular teeth in a vertical direction when the opposing teeth are in the intercuspal position.

**vibrating line**

The line of junction between the moving tissues of the soft palate and the static tissues anterior to them.

**W****wax wafer**

A strip of wax used in making interocclusal records.

**wax pattern**

An identical wax copy of the required metal casting converted using the lost wax casting process.

<b>wear facet</b>	A shiny surface on a tooth produced by moving contact between tooth surfaces.
<b>Willis gauge</b>	A device for measuring dimensions of the face.
<b>working side</b> ipsilateral side	The side towards which the mandible moves in a lateral movement.
<b>working side contacts</b>	The contacts between maxillary and mandibular teeth or denture bases on the working side, or anteriorly in a protrusive occlusion.

## **X Y Z**

<b>zinc oxide / eugenol impression paste</b>	A rigid-setting impression material mixed with two pastes: one contains zinc oxide together with an oil, such as liquid paraffin; the other comprises a resin such as colophony dissolved in eugenol.
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