

FRONT OFFICE *Rocks*®

The Leader in Dental Front Office Solutions & Training

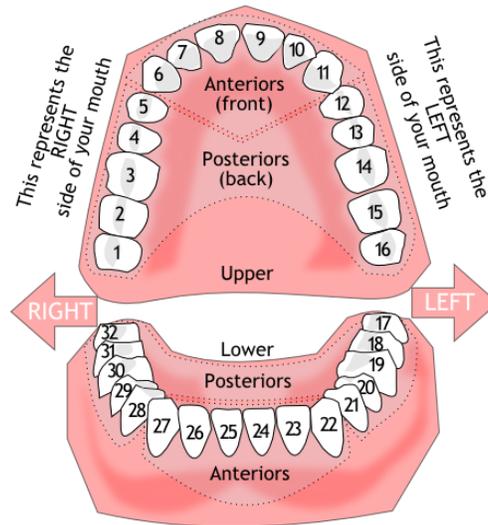
Diagnostic and Preventative Overview

Adults

- Numbering systems have been developed to have a standard way of referring to particular teeth.
- Tooth number 1 is the tooth farthest back on the right side of your mouth in the upper (maxillary) jaw.
- If you are missing your wisdom teeth (the molars farthest back in your mouth), your first number will be 2 instead of 1, acknowledging the missing tooth.
- Numbering continues along your upper teeth toward the front and across to the tooth farthest back on the top left side (which is number 16).
- The numbers continue by dropping down to the lower (mandibular) jaw. Number 17 is the tooth farthest back on the left side of your mouth on the bottom.
- Numbering continues again toward the front and across to the tooth farthest back on the bottom right side of your mouth (which is number 32).
- If the tooth was removed or teeth are missing, the missing teeth will be numbered as well.

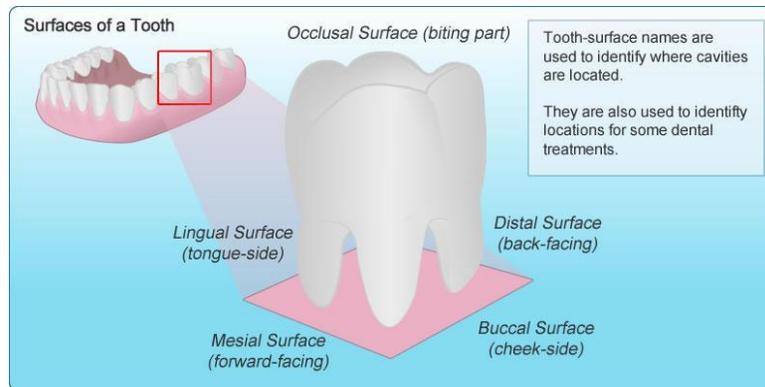
Children

- Universal Numbering System for children uses the letters A through T instead of numbers 1 through 20. So, a child's first tooth on the upper right would be A. The last tooth on the lower right would be T.



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Diagnostic: A category of dental services that usually includes oral evaluations, x-rays and evaluations.

Common Types of Radiographs (X-rays)

- **Periapical view (PA):** The periapical view is taken of both anterior and posterior teeth. The objective of this type of view is to capture the tip of the root on the film. This is often helpful in determining the cause of pain in a specific tooth, because it allows a dentist to visualize the tooth as well as the surrounding bone in their entirety. (The name *periapical* is derived from the Greek *peri*, which means "around," and *apical*, which means "tip.")
- **Bitewing view (BW):** The bitewing view is taken to visualize the crowns of the posterior teeth. Routine bitewing x rays are commonly used to examine for cavities and bone loss. (The name *bitewing* refers to a little tab of paper or plastic situated in the center of the X-ray film, which when bitten on, allows the film to hover so that it captures an even amount of information.)
- **Full mouth series:** A full mouth series is a complete set of intraoral X-rays taken of a patients' teeth and adjacent hard tissue. This is often abbreviated as either FMS or FMX (or CMRS, meaning Complete Mouth Radiographic Series). The full mouth series is composed of 18 films, taken the same day.

Preventive dentistry is the practice of caring for one's teeth to keep them healthy. This helps to avoid cavities, gum disease, enamel wear, and more. There are many forms of **preventive dentistry**, such as daily brushing and annual **dental** cleanings.

Notes: