



EXQUISITE SMILE DESIGNS

Tooth Shade Photography Protocol



Changing Lives Through Smile Design

BEFORE YOU BEGIN *** SUPER IMPORTANT ***

- All photos must be taken **before** teeth are prepped because after preparation and medication, dehydration and tissue color changes can distort true shades.
- Remove all lipstick, lip gloss, or any lip coloration before taking photos.
- Natural lighting and neutral lips ensure the most accurate shade capture. Use consistent lighting – preferable color-balanced daylight or ring flash.
- Always dry teeth before taking photos to avoid color distortion.
- Take photos straight-on, not at an angle. Have patient sitting up rather than laying down.
- Include patient ID or case number for tracking.

DESIRED PHOTOS (10 TOTAL)

PHOTO #1 - Portrait:

- Full Face, Natural Smile
- Forehead to chin
- Patient's natural, relaxed smile.



PHOTO #2 - Close-Up: Natural Smile:

- Fill the frame with the smile area.
- Keep lighting even and centered.



PHOTO #3 - Exaggerated 'Belly Laugh' Smile:

- Captures full lip movement and display dynamics.



PHOTO #4 - Lips in Repose:

- Lips relaxed
- Not smiling.
- Used to determine natural tooth display at rest.



PHOTO #5 - 'E' (Deutschen) Smile:

- Have patient say the letter 'E' to capture lower incisal display during speech.



PHOTO #6 - Retracted View:

- MIP (Maximum Intercuspation)
- Teeth together, cheeks retracted.
- Shows occlusal plane and contact points.

**PHOTO #7 - Retracted View:**

- Cheeks retracted, teeth Apart
- Slight opening to reveal incisal edges and anatomy.

**PHOTO #8 - Shade Selection Photo:**

- Tooth to be matched with shade tab in the same plane as the tooth.
- Shade tab numbers/letters must be clearly visible in the photo.
- **Do not** place tab in front of or behind the tooth.
- Important: If the shade tab does not match the tooth, do not send that photo; continue taking until the match is exact.

**PHOTO #9 - Comparison Shade Photo:**

- Tooth being matched with two shade tabs: one desired and one adjacent for reference.
- Keep shade tab in the same plane as the tooth.
- Make sure shade tab numbers/letters are visible in the photo.

**PHOTO #10 - Characterization Close-Up:**

- Capture details such as hypocalcification, craze lines, tertiary anatomy, translucency, or stains.

**OPTIONAL – Stump Shade Photo:**

- Take photo Post-Prep – Only photo taken after tooth preparation.
- Shows the underlying dentin or stump shade before bonding with shade tab in same plane.



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