



SNAP-ON SMILE®

An Affordable, Non-invasive Smile Makeover

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It does not require tooth preparation, drilling, injections, or adhesives

Today in dentistry great strides have been made in cosmetic, restorative, and implant care. However, many proposed solutions to aesthetic problems such as an embarrassing smile, spacing, missing, or unattractive teeth may involve higher costs, more extensive treatment sessions, discomfort, and longer time constraints than some people are willing or able to handle. Yet, so many people would still like to have an attractive smile.

It is a fact that when asked what they think is the most attractive aspect of a person's features, people surveyed say it is someone's smile. In its research, the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry found that 50% of the U.S. population is unhappy with their smile, but are unable or unwilling to invest in permanent implants, crowns, bridges, or partial dentures as the treatment choices. Many prospective patients have forced themselves to live with missing teeth or an unsightly smile. They do so, as mentioned, for many reasons – most common are economic considerations, fear of pain, and not being sure of the outcome after extensive treatment.

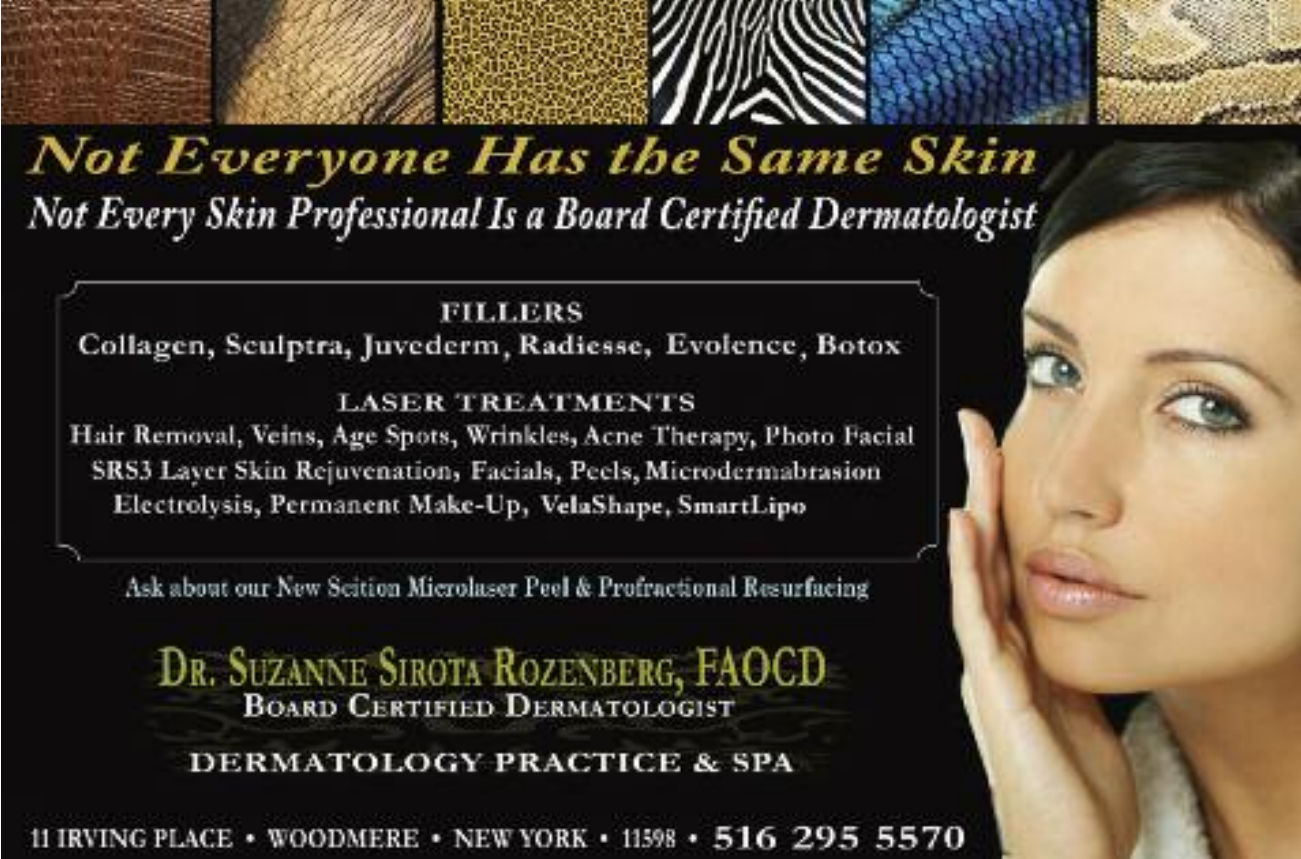
Now there is an alternative. It is a relatively new dental appliance called the Snap-On Smile®. It provides a non-invasive, completely reversible, pain-free smile makeover. It is a comfortable snap-on secure dental device that is removable for cleaning and allows the patient to smile with confidence and even eat with it on. It does not require tooth preparation, drilling, injections, or adhesives. In just two short visits and approximately 2 weeks time, a new smile can be custom-

made, fitted and inserted. Of course, existing decayed teeth and gum problems must be addressed, and treatment planned and cared for in a timely manner by the dentist.

The Snap-On Smile® is the creation of the same dental company that developed Lumineers®, the no-preparation porcelain laminate. This state-of-the-art dental appliance offers several advantages over other more costly alternatives. Its advantage versus implants or fixed cemented bridge work for missing teeth is that it is non-invasive, requires just two visits with no injections or preparation of teeth, and can, for large full-arch cases, sometimes cut costs by 90%. Compared to crowns or laminates for misshaped, discolored, or spaced teeth, it also results in no injection, pain, preparation of teeth and a huge cost savings.

With regard to the Snap-On Smile® versus conventional partial removable dentures, the teeth do not need preparation, it does not cover the roof of the mouth for upper teeth, or have a metal bar on the lower teeth running along the gum line adjacent to the tongue. It also has no unattractive metal clasps, does not impinge upon the gums, and costs about the same.

The Snap-On Smile® is flexible, attractive, and secure. It is completely tooth-supported and gets its retention from the slight undercuts that are natural to the necks of teeth just above the gumline. Properly designed, it can even cover aspects of the gum without pressing on it, thereby making shorter teeth look longer. It is made of a crystallized acetyl



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resin, which unlike acrylic or composite, does not stain and will not soften or deteriorate over time by coming in contact with saliva or other liquids. It polishes, stays beautiful for many years, and can be adjusted easily.

For maximum aesthetics there are 23 different natural tooth shades available. This means that the dentist can match or lighten the appearance depending on the individual's taste and request. Tooth shapes are also customizable to be more feminine, masculine, longer, or fuller, provided the planned bite does not affect the functionality in usage, such as speech and chewing. Patients who wear the Snap-On Smile® eat with and often sleep with these smile enhancing dental appliances. Though very retentive, their flexibility allows easy removal for cleaning and longevity.

Several other great advantages of the Snap-On Smile® are that for worn-down teeth or collapsing bites due to worn biting surfaces, the appliance can add back the worn-out portions and re-open to the previous more youthful, functional bite and appearance. For patients that are missing a few teeth on one side of their upper or lower jaw, a Snap-It® bridge may be fabricated if no more than a total of 6 teeth are involved. This is a viable option for patients who can't afford implants or fixed bridges, may have medical reasons why they need to avoid invasive procedures, or do not want to have a partial denture with metal clasps and extensions onto their palate or under their tongue.

The Snap-On Smile®, as discussed, has many uses. Fabricated for the person without active gum problems and decay-free existing teeth, it can serve as a retentive yet removable long-term solution to smile enhancement. For others it can be a low-cost provisional makeover until they are ready financially, emotionally, or both, to go on to the next stage of the needed more permanent restoration therapies such as implants and fixed bridges to replace missing teeth, or porcelain laminates, tooth-bonding, or crowns necessary to bring back to optimum condition teeth in need of repair. Some even use it as a "preview" so they can see the type of result they can expect prior to commencing extensive, lengthy, and more costly full-mouth rehabilitation. There are even patients who need it quickly for those special occasions such as weddings, anniversaries, class re-unions, etc.

Cosmetic dentistry is for the most part elective. This means it is usually not a life-or-death situation that motivates the treatment. However, it is very often a life-changing outcome that results from the care provided.

Since so many people have a more attractive smile on their wish lists, it is often an emotional or financial deterrent that prevents attainment of that desire. With the availability of the Snap-On Smile®, a more attractive smile is a truly affordable, non-invasive option that makes that wish achievable. Now so many more people who felt unable or unwilling to choose from the other options can have "A Great Smile to Smile About!"

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