

Professional Oral Cleanings

Professional oral cleanings are generally performed by registered oral hygienists and are completed following your initial oral exam. The first step in the cleaning process is the removal of calculus (tartar). Calculus is plaque that has hardened over an extended period of time is now firmly fixed onto the surface of the tooth. Calculus forms below and above the the gum line and can only be eliminated with special dental instruments.

The second step is the removal of plaque. Plaque being the thin sticky almost translucent film that forms on the teeth. It is a colony of living bacteria, saliva, and food particles. The bacteria irritates and inflames the gums and is a prime indicator of periodontal disease.

The last step is for your oral hygienist to polish the teeth. Polishing removes surface stains and plaque buildup that has not been removed your regular brushing program.