

# DIAGNOSTIC STUDY MODELS

Diagnostic study models are casts of the teeth and gums.

They are made from a plaster of paris type material called dental stone.

Usually the models are “mounted” on an instrument called an articulator which is a mechanical hinge simulating the movement of the lower jaw against the upper.

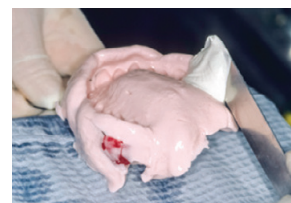
## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Why are Diagnostic Study Models needed of my teeth?

- To allow your dentist to observe how your upper and lower teeth fit and function together. This would not be visible by looking directly in your mouth.
- To allow your dentist to study wear patterns of the teeth.
- To enable your dentist to plan your dental treatment.
- To help your dentist communicate your treatment options.
- To facilitate communication with a dental laboratory.
- To provide a permanent record of your teeth, allowing documentation over time.



Alginate Impression



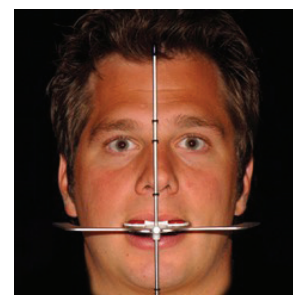
Pouring with dental stone

### 2. What is involved in making Diagnostic Study Models of my teeth?

- Dental impressions:  
Trays sized for your mouth are loaded with a material called alginate and inserted to make an impression of the shape of the teeth and gums. In the dental laboratory, dental stone is poured into the impressions to make the diagnostic study models of your teeth.
- Bite registration:  
A registration showing how your teeth fit together is taken by biting into a soft material that hardens.
- Face bow record:  
A plate with registration material is placed against your top teeth and positioned to capture the relationship of the upper jaw to your jaw joints and facial midline.
- Dental laboratory:  
In the dental laboratory the diagnostic study models of your teeth are mounted on an instrument called an articulator which mimics the movements of your jaws using the face bow transfer and bite registration.



Diagnostic Study Model



Dentofacial Analyzer Frontal



Dentofacial Analyzer Lateral

### 3. What if I choose not to have Diagnostic Study Models made of my teeth?

Your dentist may not be able to see and understand how your upper and lower teeth function when you chew. An accurate diagnosis for your dental situation will be difficult or impossible. As a result, planning and communicating treatment options to you and the dental laboratory may be difficult or impossible.



Mounted Diagnostic Casts