Zirconium and Lithium Disilicate (IPS e.max), like all monolithic materials have fantastic benefits for the patient such as superb durability and amazing esthetics. To maximize these characteristics it is important to prepare the teeth with 6-8 degrees of axial taper and .3 to .5mm marginal chamfer. Proper preparation helps to mask discolored tooth structure and allows for optimal shade matching. Utilizing the preparation information below will allow you to provide your patients with the metal-free restoration of your choice in any clinical situation.

**Anterior** Chairside Preparation Guide

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**Veneers**

A medium grit, round-ended, diamond bur is used to remove a uniform thickness of facial enamel by joining the depth-cut grooves.

**Thin Veneers**

IPS e.max can be pressed to as thin as 0.3 mm for veneers. If sufficient space is present, IPS e.max can be placed over the existing teeth without the removal of any tooth structure. Depending on the case requirements, however, some teeth may need to be prepared to accommodate for the thickness of the ceramic and to ensure for proper contour and emergence profile.

*Please note: For additional masking capabilities and/or layering techniques, further reduction may be necessary. Contact your laboratory for further information.*
**Inlays/Onlays**

**INLAY PREPARATION**
- Shoulder margin
- Rounded internal line angles
- 1.5 mm to 2.0 mm isthmus width
- 1.0 mm- to 1.5 mm-wide gingival floor
- 1.5 mm-depth at isthmus

**ONLAY PREPARATION**
- Shoulder margin
- Occlusal reduction of 1.5 mm to 2.0 mm

**3-Unit Bridge Restorations**

**3-UNIT BRIDGE PREPARATION**
- Shoulder margin
- Rounded internal line angles
- 1.5 mm axial reduction
- 1.5 mm to 2.0 mm occlusal reduction
- 1.0 mm- to 1.5 mm-wide gingival floor
- 1.5 mm-depth at isthmus

**5-Unit Bridge Restorations**

**CONVENTIONAL CEMENTATION PREPARATION**
- Occlusal reduction of at least 2.0 mm in contact area
- Taper between 4° and
- Shoulder preparation of at least 1.0 mm proximal reduction
- Coronal length at least 4.0 mm

**Full-Coverage Restorations**

**POSTERIOR CROWN PREPARATION**
- Shoulder margin
- Rounded internal line angles
- 1.5 mm axial reduction
- 1.5 mm to 2.0 mm occlusal reduction
- 1.0 mm reduction at the gingival margin
- A flat-ended, tapered diamond is utilized to establish a shoulder margin

When layered or pressed ceramic margins are preferred in conjunction with a zirconia framework, enhanced gingival esthetics can be achieved with a definitive 90 degree shoulder preparation.