



Veneers, Crowns or Bonding? How to Know Which One Suits Your Teeth

In short

Three ways to improve your teeth, three different jobs. Here is what veneers, crowns and composite bonding each do — and how the doctor decides which one fits your case.

Medically reviewed by Dr. Lillian Daghtani October 30, 2026 6 min read

Veneers, crowns and composite bonding can all change how your teeth look. But they are not three versions of the same thing. Each one does a different job, and the right choice depends on the condition of the tooth — not only on the result you want.

This article explains the difference in plain words, so you can come to your consultation knowing what to ask.

The short answer

- **Veneers** change the colour and shape of healthy teeth.
- **Crowns** protect and rebuild a tooth that is weakened or broken.
- **Composite bonding** repairs small chips, gaps and uneven edges, quickly and without major preparation.

A doctor makes the final call after seeing your photos and X-rays. Many smiles need a mix — for example crowns on weak teeth and veneers on the healthy ones.

Veneers: a new front surface

Dental veneers are thin, custom-made shells bonded to the front of the teeth. They improve colour, shape and alignment, with conservative planning.



They usually suit:

- Minor shape problems.
- Teeth whose colour needs correcting.
- Chipped or worn enamel.

How it works: the treatment starts with a smile design — the shape and shade of each veneer. The teeth are then prepared and an impression is taken, so each veneer fits its tooth. Finally the veneers are bonded and polished.

Veneers have a natural translucency and resist stains over the long term. Treatment usually takes 4–6 days in Istanbul, and our veneers carry a 10-year warranty.

Crowns: full cover for a weak tooth

A dental crown covers the whole tooth. Its job is to protect a weakened tooth and restore its strength and form.

Crowns usually suit:

- Fractured teeth.
- Teeth that have had a root canal treatment.
- Teeth with large existing fillings or restorations.

How it works: the tooth is prepared, a digital impression is taken so the crown matches your tooth and bite, and the crown is fitted and cemented.

Treatment usually takes 4–6 days, and our crowns carry a 15-year warranty.

Composite bonding: small repairs, no real downtime

Composite bonding uses tooth-coloured resin to refine small chips, gaps and uneven contours. It is a non-invasive option.

Bonding usually suits:

- Small cracks or chips.
- Minor gaps between teeth.
- Early, light smile harmonisation.

How it works: the tooth surface is prepared so the composite bonds well, the composite is applied in layers and shaped, then it is polished and the bite is refined.



Treatment usually takes 1-2 days, and there is no real downtime — you go back to your normal routine.

Which one is right for you?

A simple way to think about it:

- **The tooth is healthy, and you want a different colour or shape** ☐ veneers are often the answer.
- **The tooth is broken, heavily filled or root-treated** ☐ a crown protects what is left.
- **The problem is a small chip or gap** ☐ bonding may be enough.

These are starting points, not a diagnosis. The doctor looks at the strength of each tooth, your gums and your bite before recommending anything. If you want to change your whole smile, the plan may combine veneers and crowns — that is what a Hollywood Smile is.

How to plan it

Send us your photos and any X-rays on WhatsApp or through the contact form. A doctor reviews them and tells you which option suits you. You receive your **treatment plan and its price in writing within 6 hours**, so you know how many days to plan in Istanbul.

Your coordinator, Melis, arranges your airport transfer and stays in touch with you on WhatsApp from arrival to departure.

Caring for veneers, crowns and bonding

The daily care is very similar for all three:

- Avoid biting very hard things — ice, nutshells, pens.
- Brush twice a day and clean between your teeth.
- Keep your regular check-ups.

Contact us if:

- A veneer, crown or bonding feels loose, chips or breaks.
- Your bite feels uneven or high after the first days.
- Pain gets worse instead of better.

Our aftercare team answers on WhatsApp 24/7: +90 552 800 60 00. Each treatment has its own patient guide: veneers, crowns and composite bonding.



Prices

The price depends on how many teeth are treated and which option the doctor recommends. It is confirmed in your written plan. See the prices for [veneers](#), [crowns](#) and [composite bonding](#), or [all our prices](#). To compare with treatment at home, see our [country comparisons](#).

FAQ

Do veneers need the teeth to be prepared?

Yes. The teeth are prepared and an impression is taken, so each veneer is made to fit its tooth. The planning is conservative.

Can bonding replace veneers?

Bonding is designed for small chips, gaps and uneven edges. For a bigger change in colour or shape, the doctor may recommend veneers instead.

Why would I need a crown and not a veneer?

A veneer covers only the front of a tooth. A crown covers the whole tooth, so it is used when the tooth is weakened — after a fracture, a root canal or a large filling.

How many days do I need in Istanbul?

Usually 1–2 days for bonding and 4–6 days for veneers or crowns. Your written plan confirms the exact number.

Is there a warranty?

Our veneers carry a 10-year warranty and our crowns a 15-year warranty.

Questions about your treatment?

Write to us any time — we answer on WhatsApp 24/7.

