

Powerprox Six Month Braces - Step-by-step Divison 2 Case

A discussion among dental professionals on the message boards of Dentaltown.com. This case has a very aesthetic result in six-and-a-half months. What a great service to offer your patients. Do you have any interest in orthodontics? Log on today to participate in this discussion and thousands more.

drick

Posted: 8/13/2007

Post: 1 of 21

Total Posts: 4765



I think this case is a good example of using the Powerprox Six Month Braces Technique as an alternative to porcelain veneers. Our goal was to give the patient a great smile only instead of preparing the teeth and bonding porcelain we moved the teeth to give her a great smile. Same goal... just a different road taken to get there.

Our treatment time was six-and-a-half months.

Here are the initial photos:



As you can see this is a Class II Div 2. Normally the lower incisors are more crowded/retruded in these types of cases. We still treated the

lower arch in this case. It is hard to see but the patient had a tilted molar #18 that we wanted to upright in order to give more room for an implant or more parallel abutments for a bridge.

Also note the gingival architecture on the upper arch. We are going to improve that dramatically. You are not only moving teeth but also the gingival margins with this technique.

I like cephs for a number of reasons. Besides providing proper medico-legal protection they also give you a lot of great diagnostic information. They help tell you where the teeth are now and help you predict where they are going to move to. For example, in this case the upper incisors are retruded so they will move forward under the shape memory power of nickel-titanium arch-wires. The lowers will stay the same or move slightly forward and since the patient is a Class II Div 2 as the upper anteriors move forward we will increase overjet. This must be communicated to the patient.

I developed a fairly detailed photo and model analysis/patient examination form to aid in diagnosis. After boiling down our diagnostic concerns we formulate our treatment goals. It is important to think about what you will correct and what

you might not correct. This is critical to patient communication and is critical to the doctor in determining what we are going to accomplish in treating the patient with this technique.

Chief Complaint: Crowding

Diagnostic Concerns:

- Upper crowding
- Class 2
- Retruded upper incisors
- Uneven gingival levels
- Deep bite (approx. 60%)
- Tilted molar #18

Treatment Goals

Will Correct:

- Alleviate upper crowding
- Open the deep bite
- Even out gingival levels
- Upright lower molar

May Not Correct:

- Class 2
- Increase overjet

Appointment 1

- Initial bonding upper and lower clear braces for the Powerprox Six Month Braces technique
- Upper reprox
- Lingual composite build ups 8 and 9
- Upper and lower 014 Nickel Titanium archwires

We bonded upper and lower braces, did some upper reprox, placed composite build-ups on #8 and 9 and started with a 014 nickel titanium arch-wire. This is what we do on the first visit approximately 95 percent of the time (bracket/reprox/niti/bu's [build-ups] if needed). On div 2 cases it is more advisable to place the bu's on 6 and 11 when possible. As the centrals move forward it might be possible for the patient to bite behind the bu's if they are on #8 and 9. This is not good. It is hard on the TMJ [temporomandibular joint] and will inhibit bite opening as well. So you are better off placing the BU's [build ups] on the canines. If you put them on the centrals make sure they are extended far enough palatally.



I was playing around with arch-wires in this case. Normally I go 014, 016, 018, 16x22 as needed. In this case I went right from the 014 into a thermal 16x22. You could have worked your way through my normal series if desired. As I said I was experimenting with a different sequence here. I placed an open coil spring (OCS) to start uprighting the tilted lower molar.



You can see the BU's on #8 and 9. Again on Div 2 cases it is generally better to place them on 6 and 11 if possible.

Note the improvement in gingival architecture already. It will only get better as the nickel titanium arch-wire regains shape memory.

Note the quick alignment of the upper arch. Looking good. We did some differential reprox combined with power-chain retraction to help reduce overjet.



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The bite opened so we removed the BU's. A little more differential reprox/ powerchain retraction was performed. Check out the improvement in the gingival architecture.

- Appointment 4**
- Upper reprox – very slight
 - Remove composite build ups
 - Power chain 6 to 11, 21 to 28



Here are some final pictures:



Note the great im-provement in her smile. She is still Class II just like she would have remained had we treated her anterior teeth with porcelain veneers. We simply gave her another treatment alternative. That is what this technique is all about – putting another tool in your cosmetic dentistry tool belt so you can provide your patients with more treatment options.



Note the improvement in gingival architecture. To achieve that in a veneer case a significant amount of crown lengthening would have been required. Some intentional endo probably would have had to be performed as well. We were able to improve the gingival architecture here with proper bracket placement and the shape memory power of nickel titanium arch-wires.



Nice upper arch alignment and that lower molar #18 is in a much better position for future implant dentistry or bridgework

Well that is quite a difference. The Power-prox Six Month Braces Technique is a great tool to have in your

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cosmetic dentistry tool belt so you can provide your patients with more treatment options. ■ Rick DePaul, Jr., DDS

Editor's Note: Due to space constraints, Dentaltown Magazine could not print Dr. DePaul's case in its entirety. To view the complete case, visit www.dentaltown.com, type in "Powerprox Six Month Braces" in the search box and click "Search."

superdiver

Posted: 8/13/2007
Post: 4 of 21
Total Posts: 14364



I missed where you explained why you place BU on #8 & 9? Was this to try and open the bite some? ■ David "The Merci-less Fish" Albertson DDS

drick

Posted: 8/15/2007
Post: 8 of 21
Total Posts: 4765



The bite was very deep so we placed the build-ups to allow for immediate lower arch bracketing and to speed up bite opening. ■ Rick DePaul, Jr., DDS

vishal

Posted: 8/17/2007
Post: 11 of 21
Total Posts: 81

Rick, can I ask you how much overjet did you finish with in this case and how much you usually do in these Div 2 cases? How do you prevent the lower incisors from over-erupting on to the palate afterwards? Thank you. BTW [By the way], beautiful result. ■

drick

Posted: 8/17/2007
Post: 12 of 21
Total Posts: 4765



I can't recall the exact amount we finished with but it would have to be a few millimeters at least. If you look at the lateral finished shot that should give you an idea. The amount you finish with will depend on how large a Class II you have to start with. You can reduce the amount of overjet with differential reprox/powerchain retraction on the upper and moving the lower anteriors forward (if they are retruded) but you will always end up with overjet on these cases when completed. This must be told to the patient before you start. In my experience, patients will accept some overjet as long as their teeth are aligned in these types of cases. In fact one of my favorite testimonials from a Class II patient was something like: "My teeth are perfectly straight and I love my new smile." The patient who said that was a Class II with approx 3 to 4mm of overjet at the end of Tx. As far as keeping the lower incisors from erupting proper retention is needed. If using a hawley, I will add an anterior bite plane to make sure the lowers are hitting. A splinted retainer with a clear overlay over the top to be worn at night would be another choice. ■ Rick DePaul, Jr., DDS

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