

## Shade matching methods for esthetic dental restorations

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### I. Introduction

Composite resin restoration is a suitable option for the treatment of diastemas, caries, abfraction and crown fractures of maxillary anterior teeth in that it is tooth colored restoration, can minimize tooth reduction and can be done in a single visit. However, for the clinician, selecting appropriate composite shade is not so easy. This is especially true when the size of the restoration is large. Although various methods are employed for shade matching - including the use of shade guides, mock-up, and digitalized spectrometers - no single method can lead to satisfactory results in reproducing the natural color, texture, and incisal halos of teeth in every case.

This presentation aims to discuss methods that can adequately reproduce tooth shade by comparing and combining the various shade matching techniques available.

### II. Case Presentation

< Case I >

1. Sex/age: M/10
2. Chief Complaint (C.C): Traumatic injury on #11, 21
3. Past Dental History (PDH): dycal & dentin cement application on #11, 21
4. Present Illness (P.I): Class III crown fracture on #11, 21
5. Impression: Class III crown fracture on #11, 21
6. Tx Plan: Resin filling on #11, 21

< Case II >

1. Sex/age: F/19
2. Chief Complaint (C.C): restorative tx. Of fractured tooth
3. Past Dental History (PDH): orthodontic tx hx. (3yrs ago)
4. Present Illness (P.I): Class II crown fracture on #21
5. Impression: Class II crown fracture on #21
6. Tx Plan: Resin filling on #21

### III. Conclusion

It is important to be able to select appropriate options for each case from the wide array of shade matching techniques that are available. Satisfactory results were obtained with this notion in mind. Such a rule is integral for the success of composite resin restorations.