

Five Star Maxillary Expander



Upper air way obstruction, thumb sucking and mouth breathing all contribute to the constricted "V" shaped upper arch. When asymmetries exist, the Five Star Maxillary Expander is an excellent choice. Lap springs are often added to initiate anterior rotation correction. The minimal bulk of this appliance is patient friendly as well as hygienic.

If the patient is in primary or mixed dentition check out our Upper fixed mixed dentition expander with acrylic.

The Five Star Maxillary Expander is a fixed expander that is excellent for correcting Maxillary arch asymmetries. The design of this appliance permits more expansion in the bicuspid area than in the molar region. Lap springs are typically added which when activated provide a gentle sweeping action against the lingual aspect of the upper anteriors. As the arch develops transversely, the lap springs provide enough force to move the anterior teeth into alignment.

The minimal bulk of this appliance is very hygienic. The patient has access to remove any microbial accumulation through brushing, irrigation and oral rinses.

How does the patient activate the appliance?

An key will accompany the appliance. The patient should be instructed to turn the screw 1/4 turn twice a week. The screw is turned from the distal towards the anterior. If the patient is having trouble turning the screw, try putting a 45 degree bend approximately a 1/4 inch from the tip of the key. This often makes it easier for the patient to engage the screw.

What do I need to do to get started?

Send Five Star upper stone models. A heavy body alginate is fine as long as it is free of bubbles, distortion, or voids. Please do not pour your models with your bands in them, rather send the models with the bands separate or ask Five Star to size them for you.

The Five Star Maxillary Expander does not require separators to be placed prior to taking impressions. Rather, separators mesial and distal to the first molars are placed after impressions are taken and should remain until delivery of the appliance.

Hint: To activate the lap springs simply use your Jarabak plier to bend the wires anteriorly at the base of the lap spring. The activation should be no more than 1 mm. Individual tooth movement can be achieved by placing bends on areas of the lap springs where correction is desired. This should be done at each appointment until the desired corrections have occurred.

