

Denture Identification

Lost or misplaced dentures can be a problem in a busy care home. To reduce the chances of this happening, it is recommended that the dentures be marked with the resident's name. When new dentures are being constructed it is recommended that permanent identification is included at this time.

Losing a denture can lead to speech and dietary problems and will affect appearance. It is also very costly when dentures have to be replaced.

How to mark dentures

In the document "Guidelines for the Development of Local Care Standards of Oral Health for People with Dementia", Dec 2006 Vol 23. The Gerodontology Association advise that "Denture marking can be done using a proprietary denture marking kit or **by using a piece of kitchen scourer, a pencil and clear nail varnish**". This is quite a simple procedure and will prevent problems when reuniting misplaced dentures with owner.

1. Clean denture thoroughly and dry.
2. Select an area towards the back of the denture on the side that faces the cheek.
3. Use abrasive pad to roughen a small area.
4. Use marker pencil to add patient's initials and surname.
5. Paint over with clear varnish and allow to dry.
6. Apply a second coating of varnish. Leave 10 minutes before replacing in patients mouth.
7. The denture should be checked periodically to ensure the name is still legible and renewed as necessary.

Caring for you, locally