

Principles for Setting Denture Teeth for Lingualized Occlusion Developing & Adjusting **CENTRIC** Contacts

Goals: Even distribution on all posterior teeth

- No anterior contacts in centric position
- No posterior buccal cusp contacts :1mm of space between buccal cusps
 - 1-2mm of buccal overjet
- Evenness of contacts
- Max Lingual cusp tip to FLAT mandibular contact area (fossa, marg ridge)
- No contact on marginal ridge 1st PM

Rules for whether to **MOVE TEETH IN WAX or **ADJUST WITH A BUR**:**

Adjust with bur if:

- All contacts showing in close to proper position (center of mandibular ridge)
- All contacts present but not even in weight
- Contact(s) not in proper position, but minor reshaping will move them
- Contacts not all showing, but appear close to contacting
- Contact(s) is/are on an incline, and can be adjusted to move to flat area

Move teeth in wax if:

- Lack of contact **or** position of contact will take a lot of time to correct
- Lots of adjustment is required to correct
- Tooth is rotated/tilted so contacts/relationships/appearance is/are poor

Principles for Adjusting **CENTRIC Contacts**

- Incisal pin should be just barely out of contact with the incisal table
- Don't lose occlusal vertical dimension (note pin setting)
- Mark with articulating paper on both sides of the arch simultaneously
- Don't tap too hard – could cause teeth to move, lose occlusal vertical dimension
- Use fresh articulating paper
- Heaviest contacts will have a 'target' or bulls-eye appearance (dark ring with empty center); heavy contacts are darker and wider. Adjust these to establish similar size and darkness as other contacts
- Use medium Brasseler H79 bur tip easy for adjusting, sides flat for recontouring
- Remove marks with dry gauze – avoid getting pigment in wax
- **Adjust centric stops before adjusting excursions:**
 - Deepen/reshape mandibular contact area first
 - Reshape maxillary cusps if on inclines, or need greater amount of adjustment
 - Ensure no buccal cusp contacts, adequate overjet
 - When completed, note a solid sound (sharp rap, woodpecker knocking on tree)
 - Contacts should not feel bouncy or sound dull on the articulator

Principles for Setting Denture Teeth for Lingualized Occlusion
Developing & Adjusting **ECCENTRIC** Contacts

Rule: Develop acceptable centric stops before adjusting excursive contacts. Ensure centric stop contacts are not removed during adjustments in excursions

Goals:

- Even distribution of contacts on teeth on contralateral sides in excursions for balancing occlusion.
- Anterior contacts in excursions should not disclude posterior teeth
- NO MAXILLARY POSTERIOR BUCCAL cusp contacts in excursions
- At least one working and one balancing contact on each mandibular posterior
- Balancing contacts should never be heavier than working contacts
- In protrusion, anterior and posterior teeth should contact simultaneously on both sides of the arch
- Excursive contacts should appear as lines (not dots) on mandibular teeth
- Adjusted occlusion should feel very smooth in excursions on the articulator, and intraorally. No jumps or bumps should exist.

Rules for MOVING TEETH in wax versus ADJUSTING WITH A BUR are the same as for centric contacts

Principles for Adjusting Excursive Contacts

- Incisal pin should be just barely out of contact with the incisal table
- Mark with articulating paper on both sides of the arch simultaneously
- Mark excursive contacts in one colour, then mark centric stops with a different colour prior to adjusting, so centric stops can be identified, and not eliminated.
- Use fresh articulating paper
- Use medium Brasseler H79 bur tip easy for adjusting, sides flat for recontouring
- Remove marks with dry gauze – no water, no toothbrush – avoid getting pigment into wax
- There should be NO CONTACT ON MAXILLARY BUCCAL cusps in any excursions for lingualized occlusion
- If there are inadequate excursive contacts (uneven weight, missing) then lighten existing excursive contacts by making cuspal inclines more shallow, removing heavy contacts, reshaping cusps
- **III** – **balancing** contacts will be on **Inner** **Inclines** of **Functional** Cusps
- Reshape mandibular teeth first. Only adjust the maxillary lingual cusp if there are heavy contacts on inclines, or if a greater amount of adjustment is needed
- Eliminate any posterior contacts between denture bases or between denture teeth and the opposing denture base