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5 Steps to Selecting the Right Cement

1 Step 1: Which Cement for Which Restoration

Start *with the restoration type*. Use the chart below to identify the recommended cement options for crowns, inlays/onlays; veneers; bridges; and posts.

Crowns/Inlays/Onlays

PFM / METAL	FELDSPATHIC CERAMIC / e.max®	ZIRCONIA / ALUMINA	COMPOSITE
Bifix QM	Bifix QM	Meron Plus QM	Bifix QM
Bifix SE	Bifix SE	Meron Plus AC	Bifix SE
Meron Plus AC		Bifix QM	
Meron Plus QM		Bifix SE	

Bridges

MULTI-UNIT	MARYLAND
Bifix QM	Bifix QM
Bifix SE	
Meron	
Meron Plus	
Meron Plus QM	

Veneers

COMPOSITE	CERAMIC	ZIRCONIA
Bifix QM	Bifix QM	Bifix QM

Posts

METAL	FIBER
Bifix QM	Bifix QM
Bifix SE	Bifix SE
Meron Plus QM	Meron Plus QM

2 Step 2: Dental Substrate Considerations

Next, consider the substrate to which you're cementing. The restorative substrate influences your cement choice and any required surface treatments or primers.

METAL

- ✓ Self-cured and dual-cured adhesive resin cements are optimal when little or no light penetrates the restorative material.
- ✓ The cement should exhibit strong adhesion to metal for reliable performance.
- ✓ Self-adhesive cements work well in cases with retentive preparation designs.

ZIRCONIA OR ALUMINA

- ✓ Dual-cured cements are preferred, particularly when some light is accessible.
- ✓ Applying a primer, such as Z-PRIME™ Plus, enhances the bond strength by creating a hydrophobic resin surface.
- ✓ Ideal for crowns, bridges, inlays, and onlays in scenarios with partial light exposure.

FELDSPATHIC / CERAMIC

- ✓ Using a total-etch adhesive system combined with a resin cement ensures the most effective placement for this material.
- ✓ Light-cured cements are excellent for veneers, as they minimize shade shifting over time.
- ✓ Ceramics should be treated with a silane coupling agent prior to cementation.

COMPOSITE

- ✓ Dual-cured cements are a good choice when light exposure is limited.
- ✓ Resin cements provide strong adhesion to composite materials.
- ✓ Resin adhesive liners help optimize the bonding surface by wetting it for superior results.

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3 Step 3: Restorative Considerations

Account for the clinical situation. Special cases—such as veneers, Maryland bridges, short crowns, or posts—may require a specific bonding protocol or cementation approach.

MARYLAND BRIDGES



- ✓ A total-etch adhesive system is critical for maximum bond strength.
- ✓ Self-cured cements are essential when light exposure is restricted.

SHORT CROWNS



- ✓ For maximum bond strength, use a total-etch adhesive system, and priming the substrate is necessary.

POSTS



- ✓ Metal posts benefit from dual-cured or self-cured cements as light is absent in the canal.
- ✓ Light-transmitting fiber posts require dual-cured cements for adequate polymerization.
- ✓ Self-adhesive cements simplify bonding for both fiber and metal posts by streamlining the procedure.

VENEERS



- ✓ Veneer placement demands a total-etch adhesive system for strong enamel bonding.
- ✓ Light-cured cements prevent shade changes over time.
- ✓ Ceramic veneers require silane application before bonding.

4 Step 4: Retention Considerations

Evaluate your preparation. Assess taper, occlusal/incisal height, and overall retention form to determine whether conventional, self-adhesive, or adhesive cementation is indicated.

EVALUATE YOUR PREPARATION	GOOD RETENTION Conventional Cementation Generally Acceptable	MODERATE RETENTION Self-Adhesive or Adhesive Recommended	POOR RETENTION Adhesive Cementation Recommended
Taper of Preparation How much does the wall taper?	✓ 0° – 6°	! 6° – 12°	✗ > 12°
Occlusal/Incisal Height How tall is the clinical crown?	✓ 0° – 6°	! 2 – 4 mm	✗ ≤ 2 mm
Retention Form How much retention does the prep provide?	✓ **Excellent** (Axial walls, box form)	! **Moderate** (Some divergence, rounded line angles)	✗ **Poor** (Minimal wall height, severe undercut risk)

5 Step 5: Choose Your Cement

Select the cement that matches your restoration, substrate, and retention needs. Combine your findings to choose the appropriate VOCO cement for long-term clinical success.

Recommended Approach	Conventional Cement	Self-Adhesive or Adhesive Cement	Adhesive Resin Cement
	Meron Plus AC Meron Plus QM	Bifix SE Meron Plus QM	Bifix QM Bifix SE

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