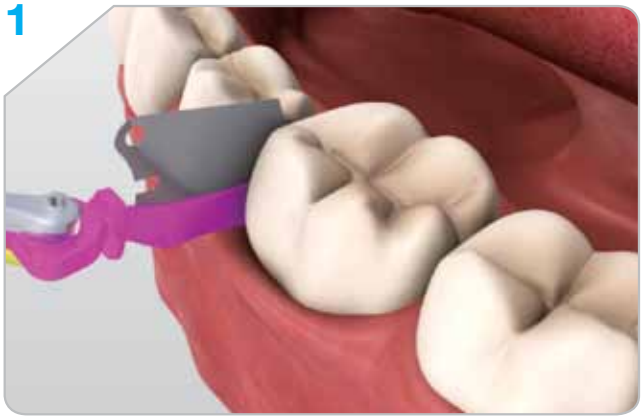
V3 System Instructions

Safety tips

- Rubber dam isolation is mandatory to prevent the potential for inhalation of parts.
- Tie floss to the V3 Ring for added security.
- Matrices and wedges are for single use only.
- To ensure sterility, steam-autoclave V3 Rings, Forceps and Pin-Tweezers before use.
- To avoid dropping matrices and wedges, ask your assistant to pre-load them using Triodent Pin-Tweezers. Pin-Tweezers minimize the possibility of unintentional release, allowing for placement and removal of wedges and matrices in a safe and controlled manner. Squeeze the Pin-Tweezers at the back to open and near the tip to grip.

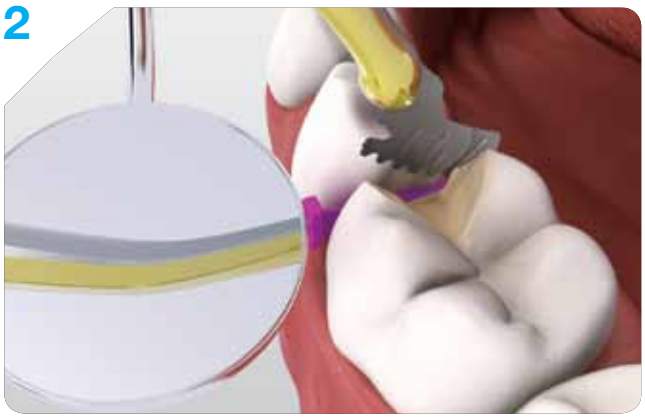
1



Wedge before cavity prep

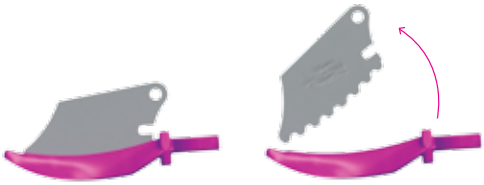
Pre-wedging prevents bleeding during cavity prep. Even better, a WedgeGuard (above) will protect the papilla/rubber dam and the adjacent tooth as well. Push the wedge or WedgeGuard in firmly from the lingual or buccal side and proceed with prep.

2



Remove guard

If using a WedgeGuard, detach the guard after prep, leaving the wedge behind. A mirror can be used to hold the wedge in place while the guard is removed.



3



Slide matrix into embrasure

Grip the tab of a V3 Tab-Matrix with Pin-Tweezers, ensuring that the gold side of the tweezer tips will be facing away from the tooth. Fold the tab towards you so you can slide the matrix apically into the gingival crevice. If necessary, withdraw the wedge slightly then place the matrix. Now trap the tab of the matrix against the neighboring tooth, and then reinsert the wedge.

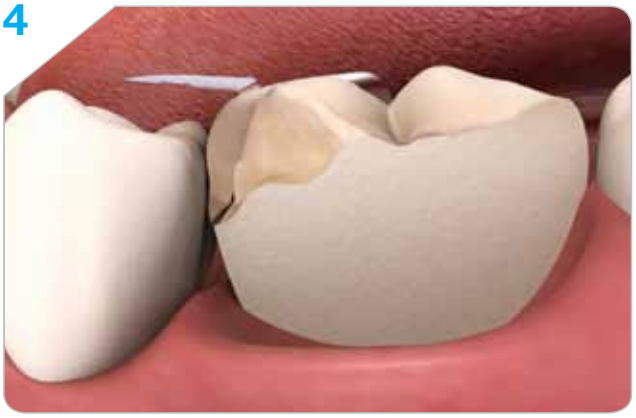
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4



Adjust matrix
Make small adjustments to ensure the matrix band is at the right height to get maximum benefit from the contour, particularly the rolled marginal ridge, as seen in this cross-section.

5



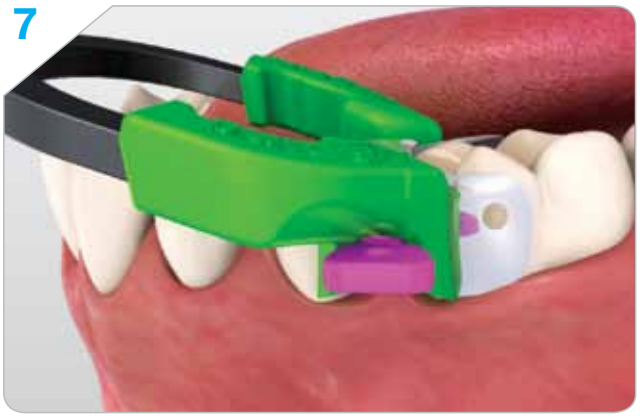
Option to place matrix first
If you are not using a WedgeGuard or prefer not to pre-wedge, you may cut the prep first, then place the matrix and then the wedge.

6



Carefully place V3 Ring
Ask your assistant to pass you a V3 Ring - green for molars, yellow for premolars and primary teeth - already in the forceps with the lock on. **Do not rush this next step:** Using a finger-rest to steady the forceps, place the ring as low as possible with the tines straddling the wedge. When releasing the forceps, use a finger to press down on the matrix tab to prevent movement.

7



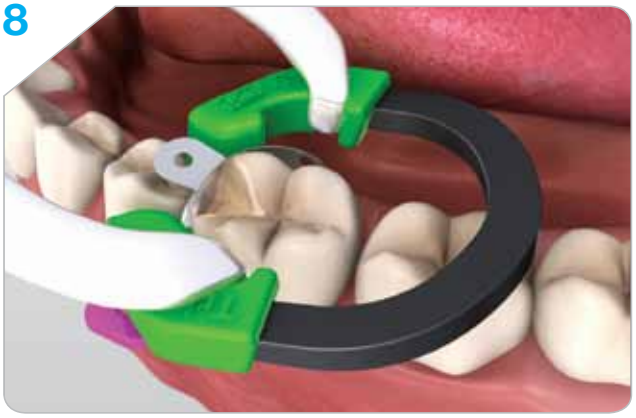
Ring in ideal position
The image above shows the V3 Ring in position from the buccal view. Note how the tips of the tines are close to the gingival margin and the V-slot of the V3 Ring is touching the wedge. Make sure that the ring is in direct contact with the wedge and will not move any further in an apical direction.

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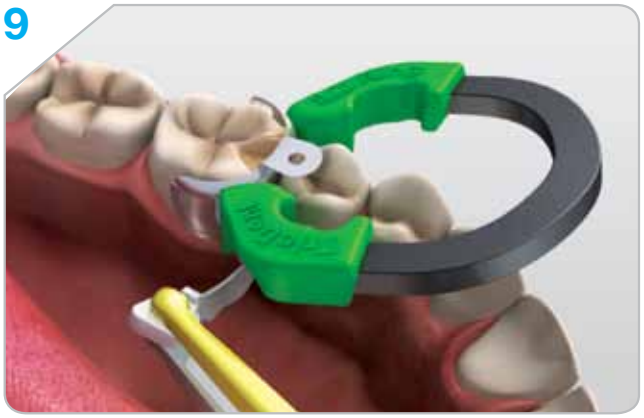
V3 System Instructions

8



Place ring distally
Often it is best to place the V3 Ring distally for better view and access, even with an MO.

9



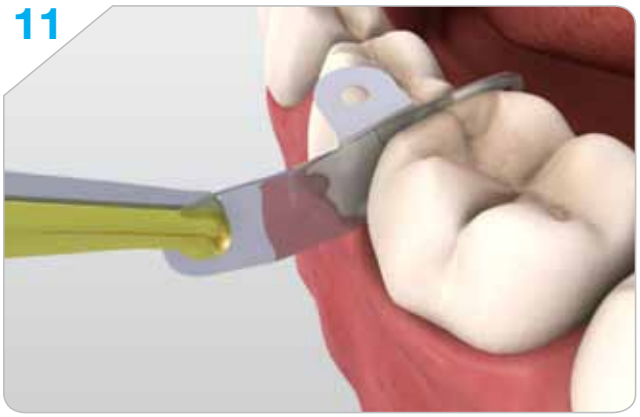
Wedging from both sides
The V3 System allows a second wedge to be placed from the other side, even without removing the ring first. The second wedge can be fitted underneath the first as shown above. This feature enables you to easily adjust the wedging without starting over.

10



Separate matrix from composite
Break the bond between the matrix and the composite by pushing a thin, metal-blade instrument through the embrasure below the contact point.

11



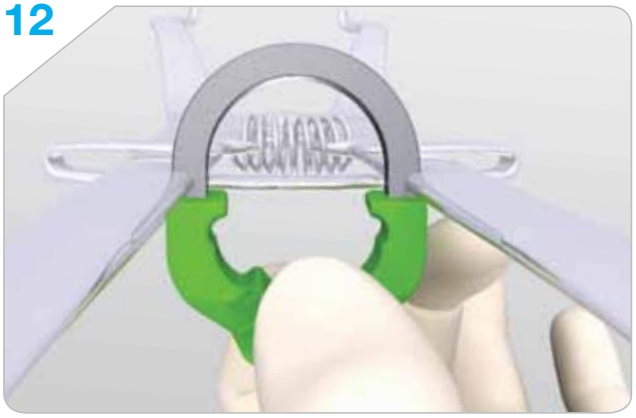
Remove matrix
Grip one of the matrix wing holes with Pin-Tweezers and wriggle the matrix gently. If the matrix moves, it is free of the composite and can be removed.

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12



Ring retensioning
Occasionally your V3 Rings may need resetting, particularly if they have been over-extended in the forceps. To reset, place the ring in the grooves of the forceps handles and squeeze together.



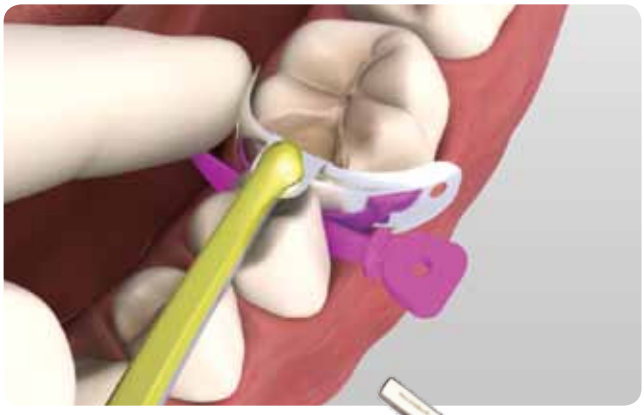
Handy V3 Tips

Universal V3 Ring or Narrow V3 Ring?
The Triodent Narrow V3 Ring (yellow) is designed for premolars and primary teeth as it has a stronger spring action on narrow embrasures. The yellow ring can also be useful for teeth that are difficult to separate or in a case that requires extra separation, such as back-to-back MO/DOs.

A possible contra-indication is that the yellow ring may create too tight contacts when used on molars, leading to difficulty in removing the matrix.

Note: Over-tight contacts will resolve themselves in a couple of days through minor (<30µ) tooth movements, similar to orthodontic movements. No awkward disking or stripping of contacts is necessary. The green V3 Ring fits in most cases and works very well on large molars.





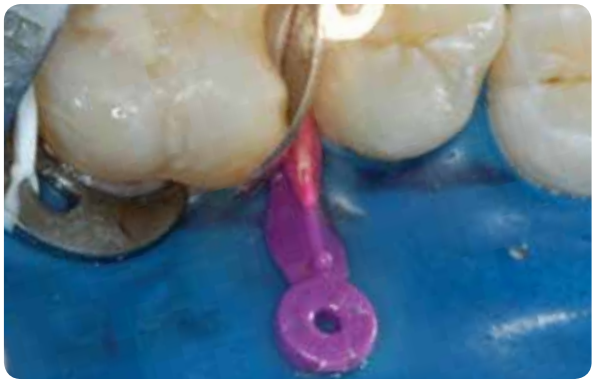
Pin-Tweezers
Use Triodent Pin-Tweezers to avoid dropping matrices and wedges. Squeeze the tweezers at the back to open and near the tip to grip. When gripping the matrix, ensure that the gold side of the tweezer tips will be facing away from the tooth. Otherwise the pin can be difficult to disengage from the tab.

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Handy V3 Tips





Wedging from both sides
The V3's V-shaped tines allow you to wedge from both sides. This can be great for sealing the bottom axial corner of the box or to ensure that there is an optimal seal along the bottom edge of the box. Check the gingival margin for gaps. If necessary, place a second wedge. You can do this with the V3 Ring and V3 Tab-Matrix in place, without starting over.

Restoring back-to-back MO and DO

The easiest method for back-to-back Class II restorations is to complete one and then do the other. Doing both simultaneously can be faster but requires more operator skill. A Narrow V3 Ring (yellow) is recommended as more separation is necessary to overcome two thicknesses of matrix.



Pre-wedging
Before cavity prep, pre-wedge with a WedgeGuard or, if you prefer, a Wave-Wedge. The WedgeGuard will protect the adjacent tooth from the bur and separate the teeth slightly. A WedgeGuard or Wave-Wedge will also depress the interproximal gingivae and rubber dam, if present, protecting both from the bur and preventing bleeding. Lubricating the tip of the wedge with a water-based lubricant or local anesthetic paste will help it slide through without catching the rubber dam.

WedgeGuards and Wave-Wedges also sit more apically, allowing the contact point to be lower.

If the contact point is too tight to get the WedgeGuard through, you can place a V3 Ring briefly to achieve sufficient separation. Alternatively, cut through the occlusal enamel to weaken the marginal ridge and fracture it off, then place the WedgeGuard. Trim part of the WedgeGuard if necessary for a better view and access to an MO.

V3 Tab-Matrices
Wedging before placing the matrix eliminates the possibility of a gingival tag protruding into the box.

If you prefer to place the matrix before the wedge, trap the matrix tab with your finger against the neighboring tooth while inserting the wedge. This prevents the matrix sliding out of the embrasure.

Ensure there is no gap between the matrix and the tooth at the gingival margin after ring placement. If there is, engage one of the matrix wings with a suitable instrument and pull the matrix tight.

To ensure complete curing of the composite, fold the wings of the matrix back (after removing the ring and wedges) and cure from the buccal and lingual sides.

Take care not to lacerate the papilla by excessively rocking the matrix during removal.

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Handy V3 Tips

Using more than one V3 Ring
When doing an MOD, you can stack the V3 Rings or have one facing mesially and the other distally. The ring tilts up, away from the marginal ridge, allowing sufficient room if you are stacking them (see below, right).



Restoring MODs
The recommended method is as follows:
1. Pre-wedge both M and D and complete cavity prep.
2. Slide M and D matrix into position, etch and bond.
3. Place V3 Ring on M, build and cure M contact point.
4. Move V3 Ring to D, build and cure D contact point.
5. Complete occlusal surface and cure with C-Factor issues in mind.



Triodent V3 Ring Maintenance Guide

Preventing contamination
A light smear of petroleum jelly on the V3 Ring tines will help prevent bonding agents and composites sticking.

Removing contaminants
It is easier to remove contaminants if the ring is soaked briefly in alcohol first.

Pre-sterilization
Rinse rings before ultrasonic cleaning. Most ultrasonic cleaning solutions will not affect the V3 Ring, although chemicals in some cleaners may cause tine discoloration. The discoloration is only cosmetic, but if that is a concern put the rings in a beaker with a water/detergent solution and place that in the ultrasonic cleaner to keep the rings away from the chemicals.

Sterilization
Only steam-autoclave V3 Rings. Avoid leaving the rings in an autoclave overnight or for long periods, as this may cause staining from the autoclave itself. Do not use chemical sterilization techniques. Chemi-claving chemicals such as amines attack plastics.

Retensioning
Triodent forceps have built-in grooves for resetting V3 Rings. To help ensure you get the longest possible use from
your rings:

- Avoid over-stretching. Open the ring only as far as needed to place it over the tooth.
- Do not leave the ring open in the forceps for a long period of time.

Below: A new V3 Ring (left) and a two-year-old ring that has been cleaned regularly in an ultrasonic cleaning solution.



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