



# A Complete Guide to TrueDent™ Dentures

3D Printed Monolithic,  
Full-Color Dental  
Appliances



The dental industry is facing a growing challenge: meeting the prosthetic needs of the increasing number of edentulous and partially edentulous patients in the United States. According to the American College of Prosthodontists, 90% of those who suffer from edentulism have dentures, and the number of partially edentulous patients is expected to increase to more than 200 million individuals in the next 15 years<sup>1</sup>. In addition, the global market for full denture units is expected to grow at a CAGR of 3.4% from 2021 to 2028<sup>2</sup>. To meet this growing demand, the dental industry needs to develop a streamlined digital workflow that produces highly aesthetic denture solutions that provide fit, form, and function consistently at scale.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gtoapro.org/facts-figures/>

<sup>2</sup> iData Research Inc.



# Converting to a Digital Workflow



Prosthodontists and dental laboratories have long sought a method to accurately replicate the shade, contour, and dentition when creating complete denture prosthetics all while ensuring cost-effectiveness, labor efficiency, and reproducibility.

Conventional dentures manufactured using PMMA have been known for their aesthetic appeal. However, the manual design and fabrication methods involved in creating these traditional dentures make them susceptible to inaccuracies. Another disadvantage is the loss of clinical data including impressions, master casts, and relationship records during the production process making replication impossible. Denture fabrication is labor intensive and, in many cases, can be considered an art form that requires highly skilled technicians.

Unfortunately, the dental industry is suffering from a shortage of skilled labor, as the number of dental technicians has decreased by 50% over the last 15 years<sup>3</sup>. Experienced technicians are leaving the profession at a faster rate than new ones can be hired and trained.

As CAD/CAM software and 3D printing advance, dental laboratories have gained the ability to digitally produce natural looking dentures with highly accurate fit and function. According to the Key Group Dental Lab 2022 survey, 29% of US labs offer digital dentures, in those labs 45% of cases are produced digitally. The survey also found that the adoption of digital dentures is increasing, matching the growing demand from patients. A key benefit to the digital workflow is that the original patient records and the prosthesis data can be stored and may be

reproduced in the future.

“The most commonly used 3D printing technology for fabricating digital dentures is Digital Light Processing (DLP). In this process, the denture base and teeth are printed separately and then bonded together. However, the bonding process introduces variables into the workflow, which can lead to improper tooth-base relationships and potential tooth debonding. Moreover, since the base and teeth are created from different materials in different shades, the resin for each print must be prepared and changed in the printer before each part is produced. As a result, dental laboratories need to maintain a range of denture base and tooth shade resins to accommodate different patients’ aesthetic preferences.

<sup>3</sup> <https://americasmiles.net/lab-day-seminar-predicting-the-next-dental-lab-wave/>



Until now, printed dentures and appliances had to be designed and manufactured in multiple parts and bonded together, the TrueDent solution simplifies the process, lowers the costs, and allows for dentures and temporaries to be produced much faster, achieving incredible aesthetics. We can now expand our prosthetic service printing multi-colored personalized appliance at scale.

Frank Acosta

**Owner of AA Dental Design.**



## Mastering the Challenge of Digital Dentures

TrueDent™, is a patented, FDA-cleared<sup>4</sup> (Class II) resin developed for 3D printing of full and partial dentures and temporary crowns and bridges, inlays, onlays and veneers. PolyJet technology combined with TrueDent resin enables batch production of highly aesthetic, monolithic, full-color dental appliances, giving dental patients aesthetic, functional, and durable 3D printed prosthesis.

### What is PolyJet?

PolyJet is a powerful 3D printing jetting technology that produces smooth, accurate parts, prototypes, and tooling with layer resolution of up to 18.75 microns. PolyJet printers work similarly to a household inkjet 2D paper printer, but instead of ink, tiny droplets of a UV reactive photopolymer are precisely

placed, one layer at a time, and cured to build a 3D part. This unique process allows for a blending of base materials into digital materials, as an inkjet-type head deposits multiple droplets of a photopolymer onto a build tray. A UV light source immediately cures this layer, and the process is repeated until the part is complete. With the TrueDent solution, TrueDent 5 resin colors (magenta, yellow, cyan, white, and clear) are mixed digitally to create the desired denture tooth and base shades, and a multi color single-print denture is printed. With this technology, it is possible to print multiple prosthetics in different shade combinations, all together, at the same time. By simultaneously printing multicolored parts, the denture production process becomes simpler, more efficient, highly accurate, and fully repeatable.

<sup>4</sup> Please refer to [FDA website](#) for complete indications for use.



This new resin signals a major disruption in dental technology: the beginning of the ‘full-color revolution’. The denture and temporary crown applications will forever change our industry for the better by pushing digital workflows forward and bending definitions.

John Madden

CDT



## Meet TrueDent

TrueDent enables batch production of highly aesthetic, monolithic, multicolor dental appliances on a single mixed part, high-capacity tray.

### Monolithic Print

TrueDent dentures are fabricated in a single, continuous print that includes both the denture base and teeth. Eliminating the need to bond the teeth to the base and the risk of teeth debonding, which is a known cause of failure in dentures.

### True Aesthetics Made Possible

TrueDent delivers natural-looking gums, mimics tooth structure and translucency, and eliminates conventional manual assembly and bonding

for the teeth and base. The design software currently contains presets for 10 gingiva shades, 17 tooth shades with two-layer structure, and two tooth shades with three-layer structure (for incisal translucency). Aesthetics like layered shading, base veins or capillaries, and opacity are determined in software. Additional shade libraries will be added over time, expanding the available personalization options for the patients.

# Meet TrueDent



## Accurate Print from Design to Fit

High fidelity matching and tight tolerances between design and print are achieved by incremental build-up and curing of thin (18.75 microns) material layers which results in reduced polymerization shrinkage compared to other denture printing techniques. In addition, each printed part is encapsulated by a unique gel-like support material (a hydrophilic plasticized photopolymer) which fully supports the entire denture surface. The support structure is automatically applied by the design software, eliminating human error, and optimizing material usage. The gel-like support material is easily removed from the printed denture using a water jet process, leaving behind a true high-fidelity fit

with no support scarring and recontouring.

Having a high-fidelity match between collected clinical data, design data, and the PolyJet printed TrueDent prosthesis results in improved fit and form. A more accurate dental appliance can mean less clinical chair-time adjusting dentures, which is a win-win for patients, dentists, and laboratories.

## Production Capacity

Simultaneous printing of multi-color parts simplifies the prosthetic production process while increasing efficiency and expanding the prosthetic service offering. With PolyJet printing, there is no need to change trays to achieve a different tooth or base shade. The need to stock

liters of material in various denture base and tooth shades is eliminated as well. The large print tray allows for over 34 full color dentures to be printed simultaneously. Eliminating manual assembly and bonding of teeth to bases reduces the labor required to produce a denture. Denture designs can be saved and reproduced. This creates possibilities for economical back-ups or replacements for lost or broken dentures. A simpler production workflow, increased printer productivity, reduced inventory, advanced software features, and reduced labor requirements optimize removable production for dental labs.

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This is just the beginning, we will continue to advance the aesthetics of end use parts by developing the software. In the future, dental technicians may even have the capability of customizing their own teeth and base shades, delivering the most lifelike dental prosthesis imaginable.

Daniel Bahar

**Product Manager at Stratasys**



## Software Enabled Hardware

The J5 DentaJet PolyJet printer powered GrabCAD Print software platform and the TrueDent resin is a full turnkey solution for the fabrication of dental prostheses.

The J5 DentaJet offers multi-material printing capabilities and a large circular print tray, all in a small footprint. In addition to ensuring printing continuity, the material cabinet can be loaded with 2 cartridges of each TrueDent resin color.

GrabCAD is easy to use and integrates with

leading Dental CAD platforms such as 3Shape and ExoCAD. It enables automated nesting, creating optimized support structure and offers additional features such as fleet management, performance monitoring, and remote printing capabilities.

Future software updates will offer improved production capabilities and additional shade and internal tooth structure options.

# TrueDent True Aesthetics Made Possible.

Expand your services, increase efficiency, and give your customers and their patients a product that will make them smile.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.stratasys.com/en/industries-and-applications/3d-printing-applications/dentures/>



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