

Problems to Watch for in Seven Year Olds



Anterior Crossbite



Posterior Crossbite



Crowding



Open Bite

An open bite is usually due to an oral habit.



Protrusion



Ectopic Eruption

Ectopically erupting maxillary molar.



Complete Class III



Diastema



Oral Habits

Many orthodontic problems should be addressed at age 7 or earlier to avoid extractions of permanent teeth, jaw surgery, TMJ problems or gum/bone recession

American Association of Orthodontists Recommendation For Orthodontic Check-Ups No Later than Age 7

The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) recommends that all children have an initial orthodontic evaluation no later than age 7

The Reasons for this Examination at this age:

- The 6 year molars should be erupted at this time. This allows for proper examination of the bite.
- The upper and lower central incisors should have erupted at this time also. This allows us to determine if there is enough room for the remaining permanent incisors to erupt or if an expander and limited braces are needed. Underbites and severe deep bites should be addressed at this age also to avoid tooth wear and bone/gum recession.
- The X-Rays that will be taken help us to determine if there is enough space for the permanent teeth, whether there are missing or extra permanent teeth and rule out any pathology or impacted teeth that may be present.
- Early orthopedic and orthodontic intervention helps prevent the removal of permanent teeth, avoid most cases of jaw surgery and impactions and in some cases even avoids the need for future orthodontic treatment when the permanent teeth erupt.

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