



# **WHEN SHOULD KIDS**

## **GET BRACES?**

**WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW  
ABOUT TIMING, PHASES, TOP VS.  
BOTTOM BRACES, AND EARLY  
ORTHODONTIC CARE.**



# EVERY CHILD'S TIMELINE IS DIFFERENT

Some kids need braces early. Some later.

Some never need them at all.

Orthodontic treatment is not one-size-fits-all.

At The Tooth Shop, we help parents understand:

- When evaluation should happen
- Whether treatment is necessary
- And what timing makes the most sense for their child

The goal isn't just straight teeth.

It's healthy development and proper function.



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# WHEN SHOULD MY CHILD BE EVALUATED?

Most children should have an orthodontic evaluation around age 7.

That does NOT mean braces start at age 7. It simply helps identify:

- Crowding
- Bite issues
- Jaw development concerns
- Teeth coming in incorrectly
- Habits affecting growth

Early evaluation gives families more options later.



# WHY DO SOME KIDS GET BRACES TWICE?

Parents are often surprised to hear about “Phase 1” and “Phase 2” orthodontics.

Here’s the simple explanation:

## **Phase 1**

Usually happens earlier (ages 7–10)  
Focuses on:

- Jaw development
- Severe crowding
- Bite problems
- Creating room for adult teeth

## **Phase 2**

Usually happens later (ages 11–14)  
Focuses on:

- Final tooth alignment
- Bite correction
- Straightening adult teeth

Not every child needs two phases.  
But early intervention can sometimes prevent bigger issues later.

# DOES EARLY TREATMENT HELP?

Sometimes, yes.

Early orthodontic treatment can:

- Reduce severe crowding
- Help guide jaw growth
- Lower risk of impacted teeth
- Improve bite alignment
- Potentially shorten later treatment

But in other cases...

Waiting is actually the better option.  
That's why proper evaluation matters.



# SHOULD BRACES GO ON BOTH TOP AND BOTTOM TEETH?

Parents often ask:

“Can we just do the top teeth?”

Sometimes. But not always.

Your child's teeth need to work together as a system.

Straightening only the top teeth can sometimes:

- Create bite problems
- Affect chewing
- Cause uneven alignment
- Lead to instability later

Treatment decisions depend on:

- Bite alignment
- Jaw position
- Crowding
- Function

# HOW LONG DO BRACES USUALLY LAST?

Most braces treatment lasts:  
12–24 months

But timing varies based on:

- Age
- Growth
- Crowding severity
- Bite issues
- How well instructions are followed

Every child develops differently. The goal is healthy, stable results. Not rushing treatment.



# SIGNS YOUR CHILD MAY NEED AN EVALUATION

You may want to schedule an orthodontic evaluation if your child has:

- Crowded teeth
- Early or late tooth loss
- Difficulty chewing
- Mouth breathing
- Thumb sucking beyond early childhood
- Teeth coming in crooked
- Bite concerns

Sometimes parents notice issues early. Sometimes dentists identify them during routine visits.



# BRACES ARE ABOUT MORE THAN COSMETICS

Orthodontics isn't just about appearance.

Proper alignment can help support:

- Better oral hygiene
- Healthier jaw function
- Improved chewing
- Reduced wear on teeth
- Long-term oral health

Straight teeth are great. Healthy function matters too.



# WHAT PARENTS SHOULD KNOW

A few important reminders:

- Early evaluation does not always mean early braces
- Not every child needs treatment
- Timing matters more than rushing
- Every treatment plan is personalized

The best orthodontic decisions are based on your child's unique growth and development.



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# WHY FAMILIES TRUST THE TOOTH SHOP

Families choose The Tooth Shop because we focus on:

- Honest recommendations
- Clear communication
- Long-term oral health
- Child-friendly care
- Helping parents feel informed and confident

We're here to help families understand their options without pressure or confusion.



# QUESTIONS ABOUT BRACES OR YOUR CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT?

We'd love to help guide you through the next steps.

**Schedule an evaluation today.**

480-525-7110

- ✓ Child-friendly environment
- ✓ Honest, personalized guidance
- ✓ Focused on long-term health
- ✓ Serving families in Gilbert, AZ



# Meet Dr. Perkins

Dr. Jaron Beau Perkins, DMD, is a Pediatric Dental Specialist focused on creating a calm, positive experience for children and families. He earned his degree in Exercise and Wellness from Arizona State University, attended Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, and completed his pediatric dental residency at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio. Over the past 13 years, Dr. Perkins has practiced in rural and underserved communities in Pennsylvania and Prescott, AZ, treating complex pediatric cases and severe decay. These experiences shaped his compassionate, creative approach to care. He is a member of the AAPD and AAFE.



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*"My goal is to help every child feel safe, understood, and confident at the dentist while building healthy habits that last a lifetime."*

**Jaron Perkins, DMD**

# Ready for a Better First Dental Visit?



The Tooth  
Shop<sup>TM</sup>

We'd love to meet your family.

Schedule your child's  
appointment today.

**(480) 427-0531**

**Book Appointment**

- ✓ Kid-friendly environment
- ✓ Experienced with anxious children
- ✓ Judgment-free care
- ✓ Focused on long-term health
- ✓ Serving families in Gilbert, AZ