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CLEAR ALIGNERS

 HENRY SCHEIN[®]
DENTAL | ORTHODONTICS

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How To Guide
Scanning Best Practices

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Step 1 Digital scans of the patient's arches and bite will be submitted to the lab to create the treatment plan and manufacture the aligners, allowing for a precision fit.

Step 2 It's important that scans are accurate. Faulty scans mean the patient has to return to the clinic to retake the records.

Step 3 Format

- a. Stereolithography (.STL) is the only file format accepted by the lab
- b. This format is the industry standard, widely used across different 3D modeling interfaces
- c. It allows for the high accuracy necessary to produce precision fit Henry Schein aligners

Step 4 Scan categories.

Our lab categorises intraoral scans into four categories:

- Category One
 - An ideal scan that is highly precise
- Category Two
 - A scan that has minor imperfections that won't affect creating a treatment plan and manufacturing aligners
- Category Three
 - A scan that can be used at the request of the dentist, however, there is a risk that the manufacturing may be affected. In some cases, we may provide a compromised treatment plan
 - In this case, the lab will contact the dentist to discuss the potential risks and decide how to proceed
- Category Four
 - A scan that cannot be used due to a lack of essential details, making it impossible to create a treatment plan. The clinic will be notified and the patient will be required to repeat the scan

Step 5 Ideal scan: What does an ideal digital scan look like?

- An ideal scan:
 1. Accurately captures the teeth anatomy without gaps
 2. Captures the entire surface of each tooth
 3. Captures at least 2mm millimeters of gingival tissue
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Step 6 Common faults.

- Causes for the lab to reject a scan include:

1. The distal of the terminal molars has not been captured
2. Scans include bubbles or voids that compromise the accuracy of the patient's dental anatomy
3. The gingival margins are not defined and clear
4. A pre-aligner appliance has not been removed before scanning

Step 7 Technique tips. Here are some tips to ensure a good scan:

- An ideal scan:

1. Go slowly, using smooth motions, and taking care not to jump or jolt the wand
2. Use a finger or dental mirror to create space between the teeth and lips or cheeks
3. Wiggle or roll the scanner tip over the teeth whilst moving forward to capture all tooth surface and attached tissue
4. Focus on the model on the screen as you scan, checking for any indications of missed sections
5. Fill missed sections before proceeding

Step 8 Lower arch. A good method for capturing an accurate scan of the lower arch is the three-sweep method.

- An ideal scan:

1. Perform the scan in three sweeps from occlusal to lingual and buccal, starting with the molar occlusal surface

Step 9 Upper arch. Use the same three-sweep method to capture the upper arch moving from the occlusal to the buccal and over the palatal.

1. Turning the tip of the wand up makes scanning the upper arch easier

Step 10 Bite. When scanning the bite, let the tip of the wand hold the cheek away from the teeth and position the scanner on the buccal side of the molar.

1. Slowly move the wand in a wave-like motion to ensure a sufficient capture of the occlusion

Step 11 Finally, check the scan carefully before allowing the patient to leave.



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