

Tooth and Surface Identification (TID and SID)

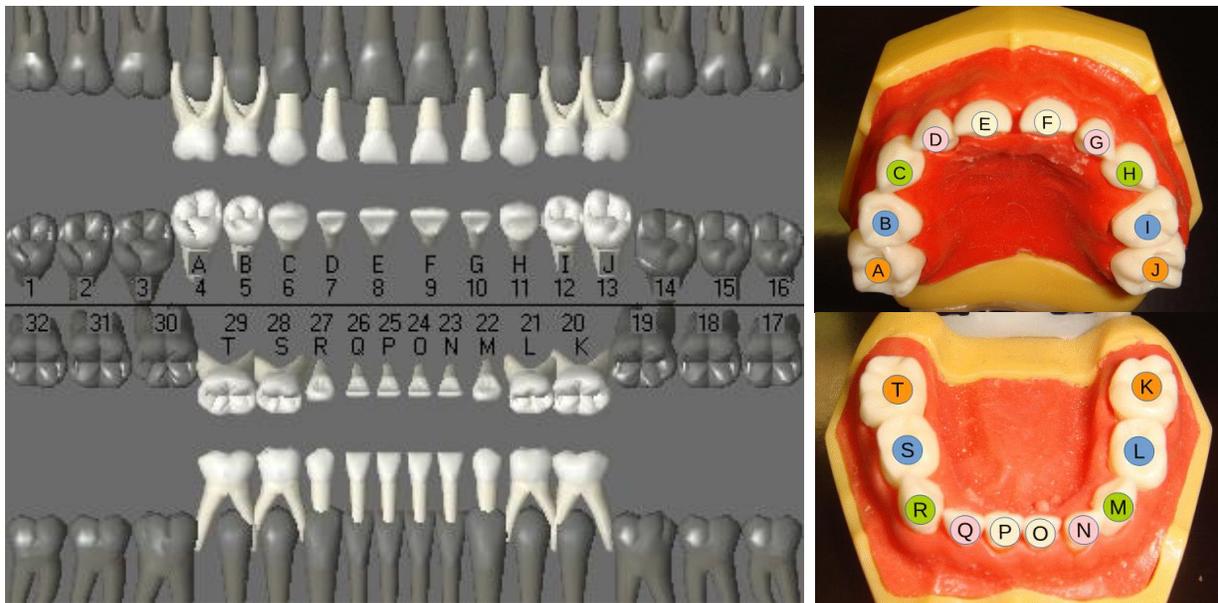
Dental treatment documentation and billing require to properly identify teeth and tooth surfaces. Incorrect TID and SID are frequent reasons for claim denial and charting errors.

We use the universal numbering system for tooth identification. [Here](#) is a link to Wikipedia to explain this system. [Here](#) is a link to the TID and SID information from TMHP.

1. Tooth Identification

1.1. Primary Dentition

Below is an example view of the primary dentition graphic tooth chart from Open Dental. Upper primary teeth are identified with letters A-J. Lower Primary teeth are identified with letters K-T. The view perspective is as if you would stand in front of the patient and look in the mouth, teeth on the left side of the diagram are on the right side of the patient's mouth and the reverse for the right side of the diagram:



Teeth A,B,C,D,E, P,Q,R,S,T are on the right side of the patient's mouth.

Teeth F,G,H,I,J,K,L,M,N,O are on the left side of the patient's mouth.

There is a total of 20 teeth in the primary dentition. The primary dentition has **incisors, cuspids, and molars.**

The **upper incisors** are teeth **D,E,F,G**. The **lower incisors** are teeth **N,O,P,Q**. Teeth E,F are upper central incisors. D and G are upper lateral incisors. N and Q are lower laterals. O and P are lower centrals.

The **primary canines** or cuspids are teeth **C,H,M,R**.

The **primary first molars** are teeth **B,I,L,S**.

The **primary second molars** are teeth **A,J,K,T**.

1.2. Permanent Dentition

Below is the graphic diagram for the permanent dentition. Permanent teeth are marked with numbers 1-32, with 1 being the upper right permanent third molar and 32 the lower right permanent third molar.

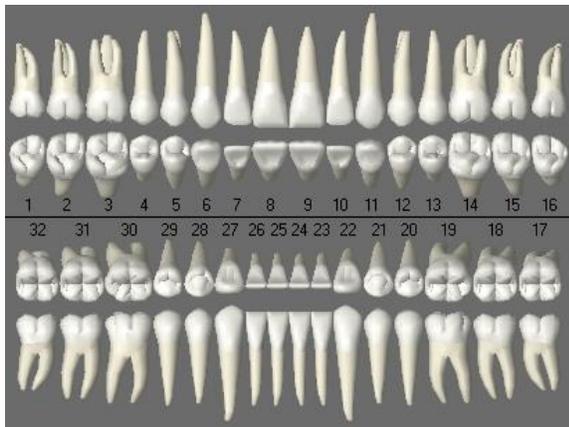
The permanent dentition has tooth groups of **incisors, cuspids or canines, pre-molars or bicuspid, and molars.**

Teeth 7,8,9,10 are permanent upper incisors. 8 and 9 are central incisors. 7 and 10 are lateral incisors.
Teeth 23,24,25,26 are lower incisors. 24 and 25 are lower central incisors. 23 and 26 are lower lateral incisors.

Teeth 6,11,22,27 are permanent cuspids or canines.

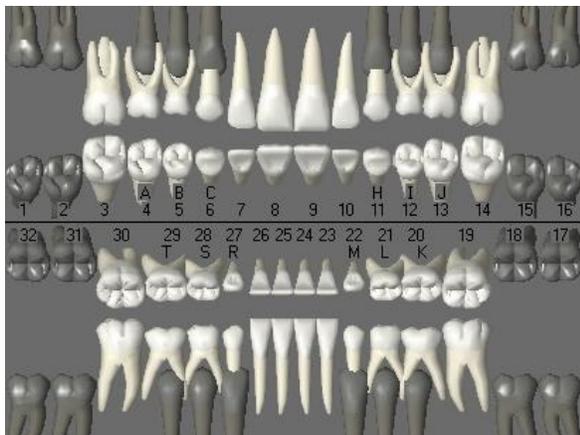
Teeth 5,12,21,28 are first premolars or bicuspid, teeth 4,13,20,29 are second premolars or bicuspid.

Teeth 3,14,19,30 are first permanent molars, 2,15,18,31 are second permanent molars. Teeth 1,16,17,32 are third permanent molars or wisdom teeth.



1.3. Mixed Dentition

Children go through a phase of losing primary teeth and getting new permanent teeth. This transition period is also called mixed dentition and has varying stages, the diagram below shows the mixed dentition of a child of approximately 7-8 years of age. The erupted permanent teeth will be identified with the corresponding numbers and the primary teeth with their letters.

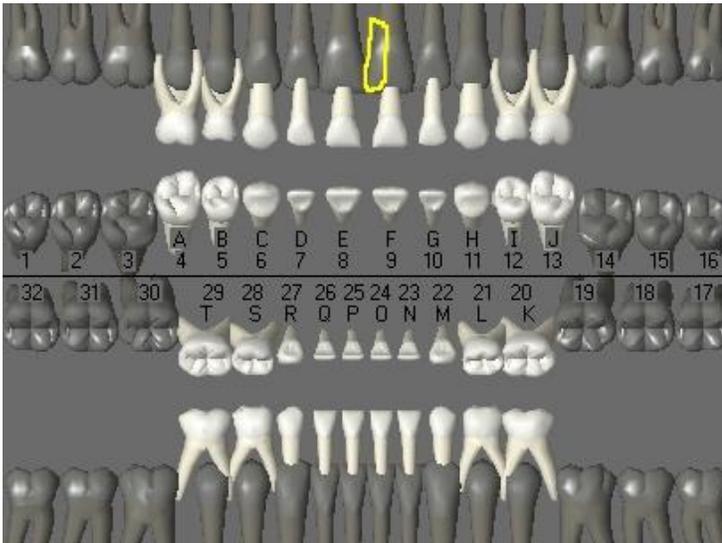


1.4. Supernumerary teeth

Each identified permanent tooth and each identified primary tooth has its own identifiable supernumerary number. If a supernumerary tooth exists it will have a number assigned according to the region where the tooth is located. With permanent teeth the number 50 is added to the corresponding tooth number. A supernumerary tooth in the area of tooth 9 would be tooth 59. Supernumerary primary teeth have the letter S added to the number of the corresponding primary tooth.

Permanent Teeth Upper Arch																
Tooth #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Super #	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
Permanent Teeth Lower Arch																
Tooth #	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17
Super #	82	81	80	79	78	77	76	75	74	73	72	71	70	69	68	67
Primary Teeth Upper Arch																
Tooth #	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J						
Super #	AS	BS	CS	DS	ES	FS	GS	HS	IS	JS						
Primary Teeth Lower Arch																
Tooth #	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K						
Super #	TS	SS	RS	QS	PS	OS	NS	MS	LS	KS						

There is currently (May 2016) no graphic interface in open dental to show supernumerary teeth. Typically Dr. Kennel will draw the outline of a supernumerary by hand in the tooth chart. Below is an example showing a supernumerary tooth 59



2.0 Surface Identification (SID)

Tooth surfaces identification (TID) is necessary to describe diagnosis of caries on a tooth and describes location of restorations. Restorations will require the explanation which number of surfaces were restored and where they were located.

These are the surface identifiers used by us:

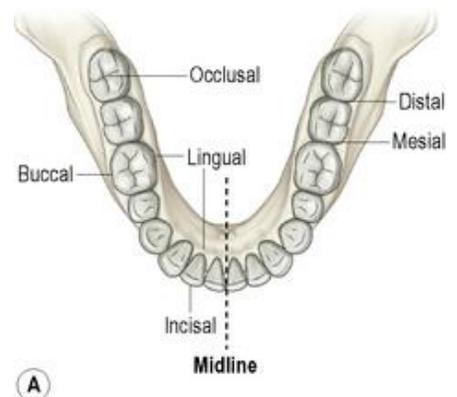
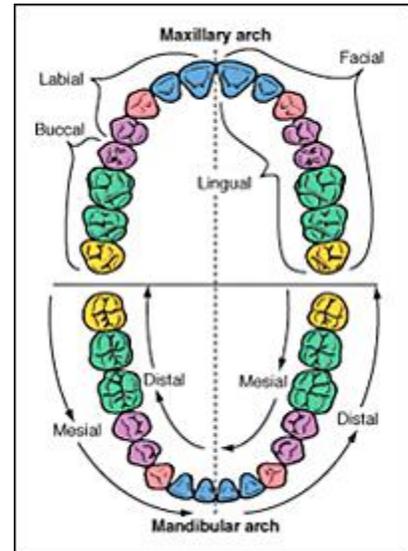
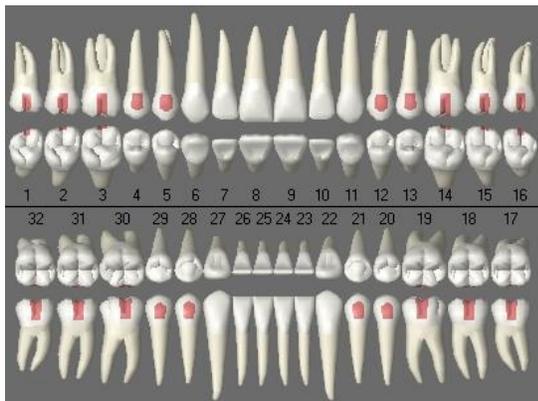
- **Buccal**
- **Distal**
- **Facial**
- **Incisal**
- **Lingual**
- **Mesial**
- **Occlusal**

A multi-surface restoration will be described by a combination of these letters (i.e. MO, DO, OL, etc...). Depending on the number of surfaces involved they will be described as one, two, three, four, or five surface restorations. Full coverage restorations like crowns will need no SID. Some insurance carriers (MCNA dental) require SID for sealants (in 90% that would be the occlusal surface). Currently (May 2016) Open Dental does not allow to specify the SID for sealants.

Here is a description of the individual surfaces:

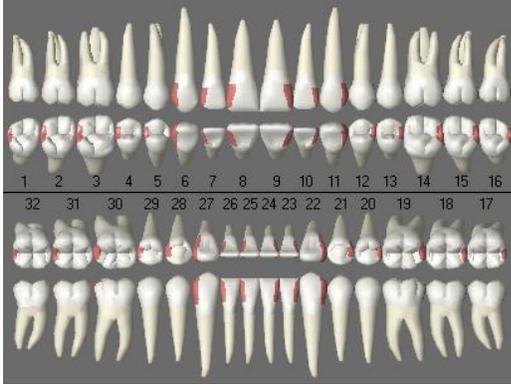
2.1. Buccal Surfaces

These are the sides of the teeth that are adjacent or in direction towards the inside of the cheeks on the outside of the teeth. Insurance will require that the term buccal will only be used for posterior teeth (primary molars, permanent bicuspid, and molars).



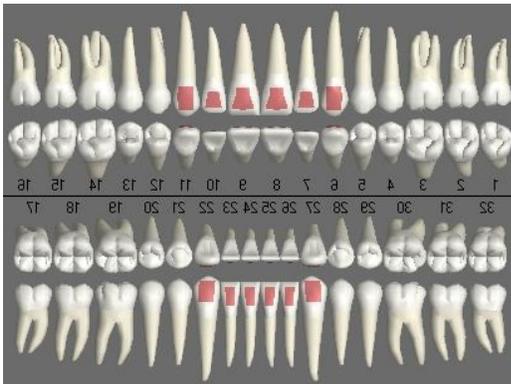
2.1. Distal Surfaces

These are the sides of teeth that face away from the midline of the teeth. Every tooth has a distal surface.



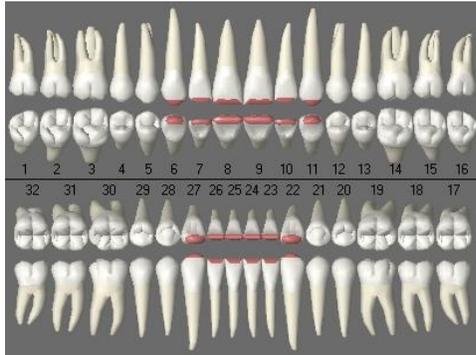
2.2. Facial Surfaces

These are the sides of the teeth that face toward the the face. Insurance will require to use facial F only on anterior teeth (primary and permanent incisors and canines). On posterior teeth the facial surfaces are identified as buccal surfaces. The technical correct term labial for anterior teeth is never used because of confusion with L for lingual. Open Dental uses "V" to indicate a class 5 location along the gingival margin of the B or F. The V surface will draw differently on the tooth chart. There is no corresponding lingual class 5 indicator. Since V is not one of the surfaces allowed when submitting to insurance, it will convert to B or F on all claims.



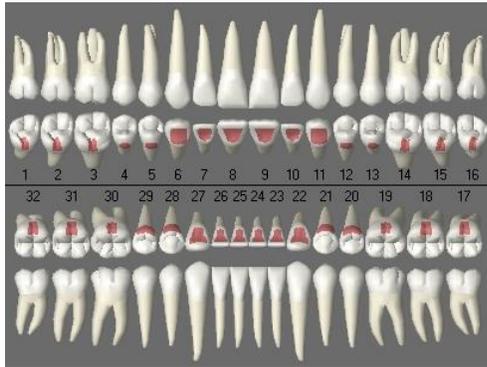
2.3. Incisal Surfaces

These are the cutting edges of the anterior teeth, incisors and canines.



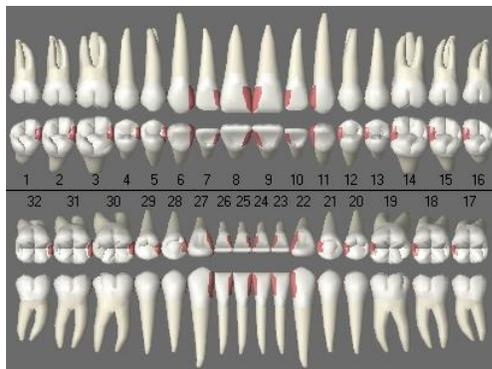
2.4. Lingual surfaces

These are the surfaces of the teeth that face toward the tongue or the inside of the mouth, they are opposite of the Buccal and Facial surfaces.



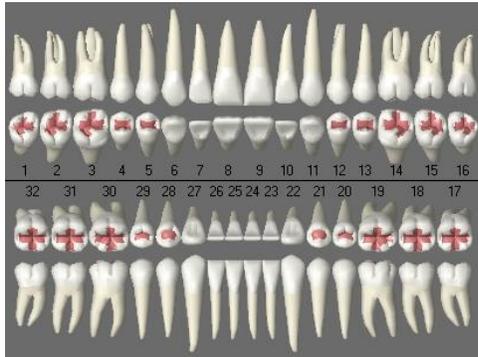
2.5. Mesial surfaces

These are the surfaces of the teeth that face towards the midline of the dental arches. On upper and lower central incisors the mesial surfaces face towards each other. Mesial surfaces are opposite of distal surfaces.



2.6. Occlusal surfaces

These are the chewing surfaces of the posterior teeth (primary and permanent molars and bicuspid).



2.7. Combination of surfaces

Here are some examples of combined surfaces:

3 MO, 14 OL, 8MLF, 19 MO, 30 OB

