Finishing and polishing of complete denture

Finishing:

Finishing is the perfecting the final form of the denture by removing:

- Excess of acrylic resin (flash of acrylic) at the denture border.
- Stone remaining around the teeth.
- Nodules of acrylic resin on the surfaces of the denture base resulting from flasking process.

The flash:

Is the acrylic resin that was forces out between the two halves of the flask by the pressure applied during the packing procedure.

Procedure of finishing:

If the impression was correctly boxed and the trial denture was carefully waxed contoured into the form desired in the finished denture, little finishing will be necessary.

1. To remove the flash of acrylic resin from the denture border, press the denture base lightly against a slowly revolving arbor band mounted on the lathe.

An alternate but less satisfactory to use a large acrylic or stone bur mounted in a straight hand piece to remove the excess resin. Take care not to change the form of denture border but only remove the excess resin on the border of denture.

2. Carefully remove any remaining stone from around the neck of teeth with a small sharp pick or sharp knife.
3. Remove any nodules of acrylic resin with small stone or acrylic carbide burs in a straight dental hand piece that are made for denture finishing.

4. The posterior area of the palate has thinned to its proper thickness.

The grinding and cutting instruments:

1. Acrylic carbide burs.
2. Acrylic stone burs.
3. Fissure burs.
4. Rubber wheels.
5. Sand paper.

Polishing:

It is a process of removing scratches with finer scratches.

Polishing the dentures consist of making the dentures smooth and glossy without changing the contours.

Principles of polishing:

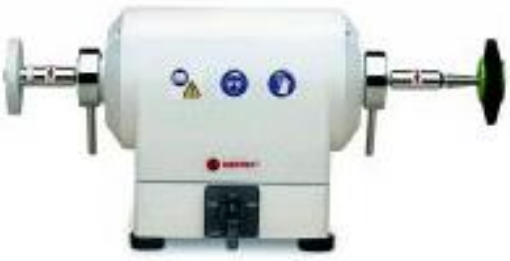
1. The tissue surface of a denture is never polished because polishing destroys the details necessary for good fit and retention.
2. The polished surface extends just over the border, but the borders are not reduced in height or width during polishing.
3. When polishing, only the denture base polished. The teeth are not polished.
4. Care must be taken when using pumice as abrasive material during polishing, this material must use as wet slurry because it may obliterate the details placed on the denture during waxed.

Procedure of polishing:

Lathe machine in the lab used for denture polishing. Muslin buffing wheel, Brushes, rag wheel attached to the lathe machine used for denture polishing.

- *First stage of polishing*

A plenty of pumice placed on the denture surface, then press the denture lightly against the wheel, and keep the denture moving at all time.



1. Rag wheel running at slow speed with pumice on denture surface:

Smooth the labial, buccal, lingual and palatal external surfaces of the denture.

2. Felt cones:

May be used to polish the palatal portion of the upper denture. The choice of wheels or cones for palatal portion polishing dependent on the shape of the palate.

3. Brush wheel moving at slow speed with pumice on denture surface:

Polish the acrylic around the teeth.

4. Wet Muslin buffing wheel:

Used to polish the denture border, lateral and palatal surfaces of denture.

❖ *Second stage of polishing*

1. Use of Tripoli (greasy material), this material is applied to dry muslin buffing wheel and press the denture against the wheel.

This differs from the first stage in that the polishing material is applied to the wheel and not as pumice to the denture being polished.

After the denture completely polished with Tripoli, it is scrubbed thoroughly.

2. Final polished is placed on the denture with a high shine material.

Notes:

- If stippling is desired in thee denture base and was not placed during the final waxing it can be added at this time using small round bur lightly stipple the denture base from the second premolar to the second premolar on the other side. Lightly pumice the stippling with a brush wheel at low speed.
- Store the polished dentures in water until they have been delivered to the patient with high gloss, compatible contour, and natural appearance. Store the dentures in water all the time otherwise it will go under dimensional changes and shrinkage.