3M Self-Ligating Braces -- Patient Benefits

Innovative Self-Ligation Technology
We would like to review some information about your braces with you.

Our office is now offering a newer version of braces that are self-ligating, and do not require any ligature ties. Ligatures are the little colored elastic ties that attach the wires to some braces.

With self-ligating braces, ligature ties are not necessary. This improves your ability to keep the braces clean, which helps keep your teeth and gums healthy. Tooth movement with these braces is efficient, as the teeth can respond to less force. Unless you specifically prefer otherwise, we are recommending the self-ligating braces for you.
How do they work?

Self-ligating brackets contain special locking mechanisms to secure the archwire in the bracket slot, without the need for a ligature. Removing the need for ligatures eliminates the friction between ligatures and the archwires, providing enhanced sliding mechanics with less force application.
SmartClip™ SL3 Bracket vs. Traditional Bracket

Self-ligating Clip

Self-Ligation
SmartClip™ SL3 Bracket

Traditional Ligation

Clarity™ SL and SmartClip™ SL3 Self-Ligating Brackets

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Consultation Benefits: Hygiene and Comfort

...self-ligating bracket systems display a lower level of frictional resistance, less chairtime for arch wire removal and insertion, and improved infection control, when compared with polyurethane elastomeric and stainless steel tie wire ligation. (AJO/DO 1994;106:472-80.)

3M Self-Ligating Brackets ...

- Reduce the use of ligatures that contribute to poor oral hygiene as food traps
- Clean, with an open slot and no door to open and close
- Smooth, with radiused edges
Potential for Improved Hygiene

- Ligatures can retain food particles around the bracket, making it more difficult for patients to keep teeth clean.
- Ligatures are made of elastomeric material that stain over time from food products.
- Self-ligating brackets remove the need to use ligatures.
Patient Benefits: Aesthetics with Clarity™ SL Brackets

More and more patients request aesthetic treatment. (Source: AAO)

Clarity™ SL Brackets are …

- Translucent
- Stain resistant without the staining-prone ligatures
Patient Benefits: Consultation Tools

- 15x Study Models
- Lenticulars
- Posters
- Practice Enhancement Kit
- 3M brand awareness
Aesthetics – “Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder”