



A Great New Temporary Cement

By Gary J. Kaplowitz, DDS, MA, M Ed



I have been practicing dentistry for over thirty-five years and remember when we only had zinc oxide and eugenol or Dycal® for cementing our temporary crowns and bridges. They are still effective luting media and many dentists still use them, but there have been many developments over the years culminating in temporary cements that have many more desirable properties, and frankly, work better. Out of all the new generations of temporary cements, I think PowerTemp (J. Morita USA) is simply the best.

An ideal temporary cement should be easy to dispense, easy to clean up, retain the temporary crown or bridge for as long as needed, be inexpensive, have an acceptable shelf life and be easy to clean off the abutment tooth when the temporary crown is removed. PowerTemp has all of these characteristics. That is why I like it so much.

PowerTemp is dispensed from a cartridge through a mixing tip. The mixing tip has a tapered terminal tip that makes it easy to deliver PowerTemp into the temporary crown or bridge. Even temporary crowns for mandibular incisors, which are rather small and narrow, can have the cement dispensed directly into the crown intaglio through the tapered mixing tip. The mixing tips are also very narrow and do not consume much material.

Only a small amount of PowerTemp is needed. I inject a small dab of PowerTemp into the crown intaglio and then I spread this around all walls and margins with a beaver-tail instrument like a Woodson or a stiff brush. PowerTemp has a working time of 90 seconds which is plenty of time for me to dispense it and spread it out over the axial walls and margins. When I insert the temporary crown, I wobble it a little to ensure complete seating and then I place a cotton roll over the temporary crown and have the patient bite down.

After one minute has elapsed, I remove the excess cement from the margins and run floss through the proximal contact areas. PowerTemp does not adhere to the adjacent teeth or the acrylic surface of the temporary crown. This makes cleaning up a breeze. I have my assistant place her finger on the crown so I do not pull it off when I floss the contacts. PowerTemp sets completely intraorally in 2 minutes after the temporary crown has been inserted.

PowerTemp is a strong temporary cement and I have had very few cases where the temporary crown was dislodged prior to the insertion appointment. I have used PowerTemp for single temporary crowns where the prepared abutment tooth was short or narrow or had minimal retention and resistance forms without the temporary crown being dislodged.

PowerTemp is easily cleaned off the prepared abutment tooth when the temporary crown is removed. Most of the PowerTemp will come off in the temporary crown. Since it does not adhere to fresh resin-composite, you do not need to lubricate your brand new resin-composite core or build up before inserting your temporary crown with PowerTemp. I usually use a prophy cup with pumice to clean off the tooth prior to insertion of the permanent crown. This rapidly clears all the remaining PowerTemp. I frequently use seating grooves in my single crown preparations and PowerTemp is easily cleaned out with the flick of an explorer tip. Since PowerTemp does not contain any eugenol, it will not interfere with the setting of resin cements.

This is a great new product. If you have PowerTemp, you will not need any other temporary cements.



PowerTemp is available in a mini-mix syringe or a cartridge dispensing system.

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