## Walking Forward

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Dealing with unwanted posterior open interproximal contacts

## STEP-BY-STEP CHAIRSIDE SUMMARY

- ☑ Check occlusion with articulating paper in both:
  - Centric occlusion
  - All excursions
- ☑ Remove <u>ALL</u> occlusal marks on the <u>distal half</u> of the tooth.
- ☑ On the mesial half of the tooth:
  - Remove ALL marks on mesial cuspal inclines
  - Leave all marks on:
    - Distal cuspal inclines on the mesial half of the tooth.
    - Mesial marginal ridge (most important if possible)
      If you do not have a good marking on the mesial marginal ridge, create one with composite (bonding to natural tooth structure or bonding to ceramic or bonding to metal). OR you may add composite to the cusp of the opposing tooth hitting the marginal ridge. (products listed below)
- ☑ You need to re-check these Walking Forward cases every three weeks, and adjust the occlusion as stated above, until the space is closed tightly.
- ☑ When a tight contact is achieved, confirm the articulating marks are as discussed above. This will ensure a continued tight interproximal contact.
- ☑ When placing any new restoration (composite, onlay, crown, etc.), follow the above instructions to ensure the tooth will not drift distally.

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