

SPACERS (SEPARATORS)

The purpose of spacers is to create adequate room between the back teeth so that the bands can be properly sized and fit to those teeth.

Spacers are blue elastic rings which are placed between the teeth approximately 1-2 weeks prior to fitting the bands. Spacers will create the necessary space if they remain in place the proper amount of time. When placed, spacers will feel like there is something caught between the teeth, but it is important not to remove them. Normal brushing and eating will not usually cause the spacers to be lost. Flossing may continue as before except in the areas where the spacers have been placed. Some general guidelines are as follows:

- 1. No gum chewing.
- 2. No taffy, caramels or similar sticky candy.
- 3. Do not pick at spacers with toothpicks or other instruments.

If a spacer is lost it will not hurt you, but you need to call our office immediately to determine if the spacer should be replaced.

Spacers may cause discomfort and normally the usual dose of routine headache medication, Tylenol or Advil will relieve the discomfort.

