

5 Questions to Ask Before Choosing a Dentist

A patient checklist from Mouth Metrics

1. Are you accepting new patients, and what insurance do you accept?

Verify in-network status before your first visit; ask about out-of-network billing and whether the office will help file claims.

2. What are your credentials and how long have you been practicing?

Look for a DDS or DMD from an accredited school; board certification in specialty areas (ortho, endo) signals advanced training.

3. What technology do you use in the office?

Digital X-rays reduce radiation exposure; intraoral cameras let you see what the dentist sees; same-day crowns save return visits.

4. Do you offer payment plans or financing options?

Ask about in-house membership plans, CareCredit, or Sunbit; a good practice makes major treatment financially accessible.

5. How do you handle dental emergencies?

Ask for the after-hours number; practices that own their patient relationships have a direct line rather than a voicemail.

Ready to grow your dental practice?

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