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If a stone falls out of a bridge... (1959)

American Dental Association

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If a
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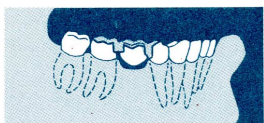
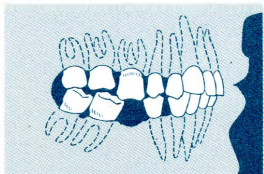


If a stone falls out of a bridge, that stone must be replaced immediately. What happens if it isn't replaced? The other stones begin shifting; the bridge gets out of shape; eventually it collapses. Nothing is left but a pile of stones.

What happens to another arch—your dental arch—if a tooth is removed and not replaced with an artificial tooth?

The other teeth begin drifting into the empty space. Irregularly spaced teeth are harder to clean, so that cavities are more likely to develop in them. There may be bone and gum injury because the teeth don't come together properly. Further neglect may lead to infection of the tissue around the teeth—and even—

tually this could lead to the loss of other teeth.



Your teeth
depend on
one another
for support. To
preserve your
dental arch,
have missing
teeth replaced.



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