

## BONDED 3-3 RETAINER

**Congratulations on the removal of your braces!** 😊

### **What does the appliance do?**

Ensures maintenance of the correction achieved. The bonded retainer is designed to hold the lower front teeth in place. These teeth are the most prone to movement during chewing and aging.

### **What does it look like?**

- A thin wire bonded behind your lower front teeth.
- The retainer is bonded on each end of the wire.
- This wire is not visible to your family or friends.

### **How long is the appliance in place?**

- We recommend wear for an extended period of time. Your orthodontist will advise you as to the length of time you will wear your retainers.

### **How do I care for the appliance?**

- Brush regularly and floss regularly using a floss threader, Superfloss, or an electric flosser.
- Be sure to attend your appointments for routine observation of the retainer.
- Avoid biting into very hard foods.

### **Problems with the bonded retainer?**

- Please come in immediately if you feel that any of the bonds have broken. Any tooth no longer attached will be free to move.
- Please bring the wire in with you so we can rebond it.
- Breakages of bonds can occur with very hard foods or if something is wedged between the teeth (toothpick or fingernail). Please call immediately if a repair is needed.

*An additional fee may be charged if the retainer is lost or broken.*

