



# Shape matters: conservative alterations of tooth contours and contacts

By Johannes Bantleon, Austria



*Dr. Johannes Bantleon graduated from the University of Vienna (Austria) in 2010. After completing his studies he moved to London (United Kingdom) to further intensify his training in minimal invasive dental procedures. His main area of interest lies in direct composite techniques as well as indirect ceramic and adhesive procedures. He currently resides in Vienna working in a fully private practice.*

In the modern society with its great focus on people's appearance, the demand for aesthetic tooth alterations has increased. With direct composites, a smile can be altered without or with minimal preparation of the teeth. If done properly, the aesthetic outcomes are very satisfactory and composites are often the preferred choice in younger patients. Very often, the patient's focus is on the desired shade, but there far more to it: colour is not the only thing responsible for a beautiful result.

Smile designing can be quite a challenge, especially because the perception of smile aesthetics can be individual and subjective. Next to the correct shade reproduction, thorough insight in the replication of tooth morphology and lustre are needed. It is a complex interplay of line angles, embrasures in which all aspects influence each other. This becomes even more apparent in the next two cases, where teeth were reshaped to create a harmonious appearance.



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