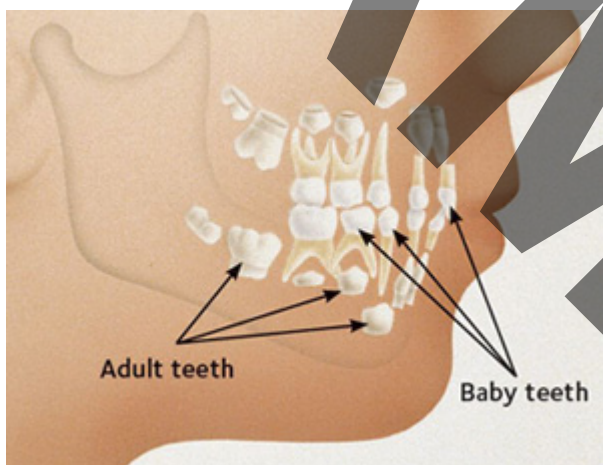


Baby Teeth: When They Come In, When They Fall Out

A healthy mouth is part of a child's overall health. Children need strong, healthy teeth to chew their food, speak and smile. Your child's teeth also help give his or her face its shape.

A baby's teeth start to come in (erupt) when the baby is about six months old. Baby teeth will later be lost (shed) one by one. This makes space for adult (permanent) teeth. By the age of 21, a person usually has all of his or her adult teeth.



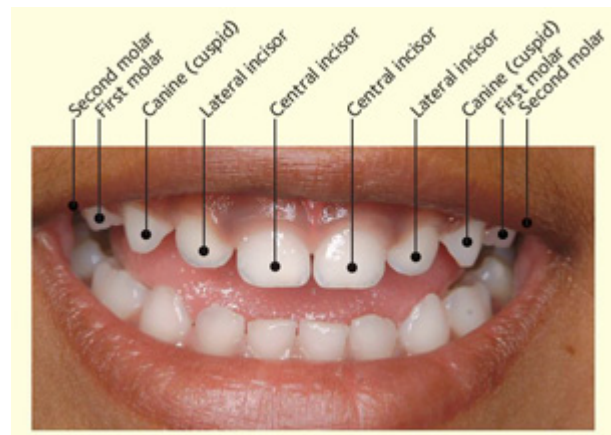
Adult teeth start to form under the baby teeth. After the baby teeth are shed, the adult teeth will erupt through the gums.

The charts below tell the names of baby (primary) and adult (permanent) teeth. The pictures show when each tooth usually erupts and is shed. However, not all children get the same teeth at the same times. Your child's teeth may erupt earlier or later than these charts.

Primary Teeth

Upper Teeth	Erupt	Shed
Central incisor	8-12 mos.	6-7 yrs.
Lateral incisor	9-13 mos.	7-8 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)	16-22 mos.	10-12 yrs.
First molar	13-19 mos.	9-11 yrs.
Second molar	25-33 mos.	10-12 yrs.

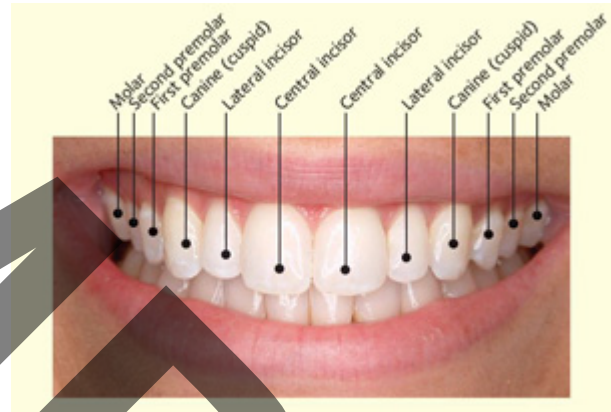
Lower Teeth	Erupt	Shed
Second molar	23-31 mos.	10-12 yrs.
First molar	14-18 mos.	9-11 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)	17-23 mos.	9-12 yrs.
Lateral incisor	10-16 mos.	7-8 yrs.
Central incisor	6-10 mos.	6-7 yrs.



Permanent Teeth

Upper Teeth	Erupt
Central incisor	7-8 yrs.
Lateral incisor	8-9 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)	11-12 yrs.
First premolar (first bicuspid)	10-11 yrs.
Second premolar (second bicuspid)	10-12 yrs.
First molar	6-7 yrs.
Second molar	12-13 yrs.
Third molar (wisdom tooth)	17-21 yrs.

Lower Teeth	Erupt
Third molar (wisdom tooth)	17-21 yrs.
Second molar	11-13 yrs.
First molar	6-7 yrs.
Second premolar (2nd bicuspid)	11-12 yrs.
First premolar (first bicuspid)	10-12 yrs.
Canine (cuspid)	9-10 yrs.
Lateral incisor	7-8 yrs.
Central incisor	6-7 yrs.



Most children have a stage when they have a mix of primary and permanent teeth. During this time the smile can look uneven, with some big teeth, some small teeth or maybe even some missing teeth, but try not to worry. Things often even out once all the permanent teeth are in place.

When your child is around age 7, your dentist will check your child's adult upper and lower back teeth to see how they work together (a "bite check"). If your child's teeth or bite need treatment, it's best to get an early start.