

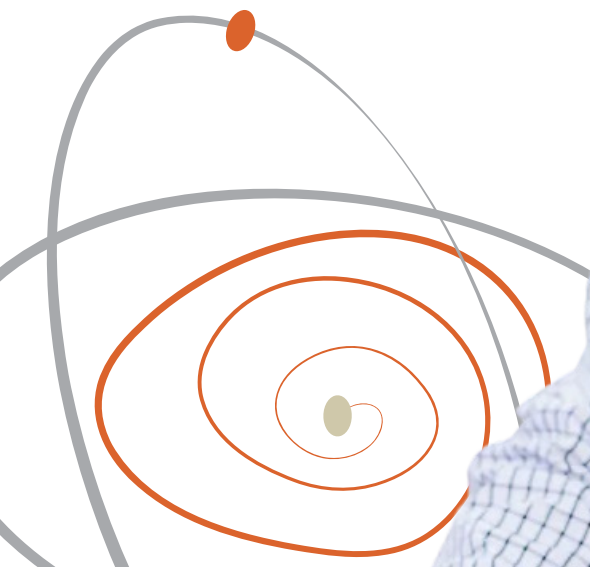
Choosing an Orthodontist

A Parent's Guide

At Feller Orthodontics, we know that choosing an orthodontist for your child is an important decision, one that should be well thought out based on the experience, education, and reputation of the orthodontist.

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ORTHODONTICS
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DrFellerOrtho.com | (509) 766-9744





“We see many parents and children come through our practice and we’ve compiled a list of the top questions parents ask when they come see us. These are great questions for you to ask your orthodontist during your child’s initial evaluation.”

1 *How many years have you been practicing orthodontics and what training have you had?*

This is a great question. As an orthodontist, he or she will have had 2-3 years of additional education after they received their Bachelor of Science and Doctorate degrees. Find out about continuing education for the doctors and staff. Has he or she taught classes on treatment to other orthodontists and dentists? How long has the practice been open? How long has he or she been practicing orthodontics?

2 *What treatment options do you offer?*

The treatment options vary by orthodontist. Find out what type of technology is offered at the practice. Do they use self-ligating bracket technology to reduce treatment time and minimize discomfort? Do they offer clear braces or Invisalign as an option?

3 *What is your philosophy behind treating patients?*

Sometimes this isn't easy for an orthodontist to answer. At Feller Orthodontics, we've thought long and hard about what our treatment philosophy is and what we want for our patients. We want our patients receive the highest quality care for efficient treatment and lifelong results.

4 *Are there payment options available? What are they?*

Some offices offer in-house financing, others offer 3rd party financing and still others do not offer financing at all. Some require large down payments and others don't. Orthodontic treatment is an investment but if the office is willing to work with

you, treatment should be affordable and fit within your budget. Our goal is to make sure there are no barriers to receiving quality orthodontic care. There are payment options for everyone. That's how it should be!

5 *Do you have contests and games for the kids so they don't dread coming to the office?*

You as a parent may not care to participate in contests but let me tell you, it makes your child's experience MUCH better. Scope out the office and see if it's kid friendly. Do they have games in the lobby to keep your child entertained while waiting for their appointment? Do they offer fun contests your child can participate in to receive prizes?

The above are some great questions to ask the orthodontist and his staff. See below for a few internal questions you might want to ask yourself as well!

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1 *What is the orthodontist's attitude and demeanor?*

When you take a child to the orthodontist (or ANY doctor for that matter) it's important that they feel comfortable and relaxed... and that you are too! If the orthodontist is tense, rude or unfriendly, this will not bode well for your future there. The orthodontist should be caring, informative and answer every question you have without hesitation.

2 *What is the staff like?*

Take a look around. Do you see staff members bickering or talking about the doctor, patients or even parents? (I HOPE NOT!) Are staff members engaged with the patients and parents? Do they look genuinely happy to be helping? The orthodontist is important but we would venture to say the staff members are almost as important. They're the ones you'll be interacting with the most. It's important you feel confident that you will be taken care of.

3 *Is the office clean?*

There's nothing worse than visiting a dirty doctor's office. Make sure cleanliness is a top priority and they use proper sterilization for all tools and appliances. You should be able to identify cleanliness issues right away!

We hope this guide helps you in your mission of finding the perfect orthodontist for you and your family. If you have any questions or would like more information and helpful tips, please feel free to call our office at

(509) 766-9744.

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