

# Why does my dentist use digital x-rays?

A growing number of dentists are installing digital X-ray equipment in their offices, greatly reducing the amount of radiation necessary. The digital images, which look similar to traditional X-rays, can then be enlarged and manipulated, which many dentists say gives them a better feel for what's going on inside a patient's mouth.

Patients say they can more easily understand a treatment recommendation because they get a good look at the problem blown up on the screen in front of them, rather than having to squint at a postage-stamp-size shot held up to the light.

Insurance generally covers digital dental radiography, and the cost is frequently the same as for traditional X-rays. Dentists say that despite their upfront costs to buy the new systems, they save on the continuing costs of film and photographic-development chemicals while eliminating the production of toxic products which help to keep our environment green. Digital x-rays can detect cavities far better than with the old system, and sooner and smaller than ever before. That means that dentists can correct them sooner and easier for you, before they seriously weaken tooth structure.

For answers to this article or questions, please e-mail us at [info@woodburyfamilydental.com](mailto:info@woodburyfamilydental.com)

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