



Local Orthodontist Uses High-Tech Methods to Fit Braces

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(Photo: Dr. Alan Jones)

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (WAAY) - A local orthodontist has adopted a high-tech way to make and install braces for patients that minimizes the time wearing them and the number of appointments.

[Dr. Alan Jones](#) began using a method of fitting braces before a patient's installation appointment using a virtual model about 18 months ago. Traditionally, orthodontists have either fit the braces at the time of the installation or have used plaster casts to fit them.



(Photo: Dr. Alan Jones)

Jones said at first he didn't tell his patients about the new technique being used because he wanted to validate that it was saving them time in wearing and in his office for follow-ups. However, after 18 months he said his patients were averaging only 18 months to wear braces, instead of the 24 month average for traditional methods.

"This gives me the advantage where I can not only convince the patient, but myself," Jones said.

Jones, who is the winner of the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Award, said he did not raise his prices for orthodontic work for the first year of using "digital braces". He said that even now that his price reflects the use of "digital braces" technology, he still gets patients who "value-shop" for the best prices.

Beyond the benefits for patients who have to endure the annoyance of braces for less time, Jones said the new technology has helped his office.

"Efficiency was the key, because I felt like if the claims were true, it would benefit the patient and our front desk," he said.

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