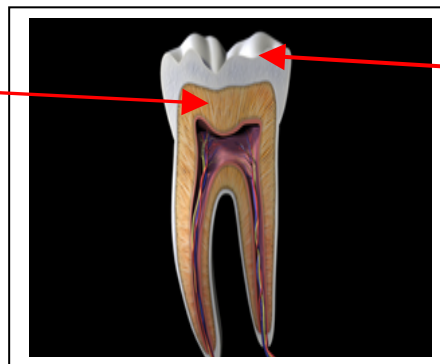


## Air Abrasion

Air abrasion is a new technology that uses air powder spray to clean to the depth of each tooth groove. It is an effective tool in diagnosing stained or suspicious grooves of teeth. This determines if a sealant or resin filling will be placed.

**Resin**  
 A resin filling is placed when the decay or defect goes beyond the enamel into the dentin.



**Sealant**  
 A sealant protects the grooved and pitted areas of back teeth. These areas are the chewing surfaces, tops of back teeth.

## Managing Chewing Surfaces of Young Permanent Teeth

<i>Chewing Surface</i>	<i>Clinical Findings</i>	<i>Treatment</i>
<b>Sound</b>	- Pits and grooves are smooth - No decay or restorations present on other chewing surfaces	No treatment necessary
	- Deep pits and grooves - Decay or fillings present on other chewing surfaces	Sealant
<b>Questionable</b>	Explorer tugback with - No stains in grooves - No white spots visible in grooves	Sealant or Preventive Resin Restoration (PRR)
<b>Decay</b>	Explorer tugback with - White spots visible in grooves - Explorer sticks and supports its weight - X-Ray evidence of chewing surface decay into dentin	PRR if decay is small  For Bigger decayed areas Silver filling or White filling with numbing

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