

Finishing Protocols for Patients & Clinicians

With a plethora of tools at the finger tips of orthodontists these days, it's no wonder that it is becoming more common to combine treatment modalities to get the best patient results and a reduced number of visits to the office. The flexibility of the uLab software platform and the diversity of uLab services make treatment completion of fixed appliances with aligners both efficient and economically feasible.

The new Finishing Bundle from uLab Systems combines everything needed to easily complete the patient mainly treated with brackets in aligners. The bundle includes bracket removal, up to six aligners, retainers, and a custom branded retainer storage case.

Learn why orthodontist Rooz Khosravi, DMD, PhD, MSD, uses a finishing protocol and the benefits he sees first-hand.

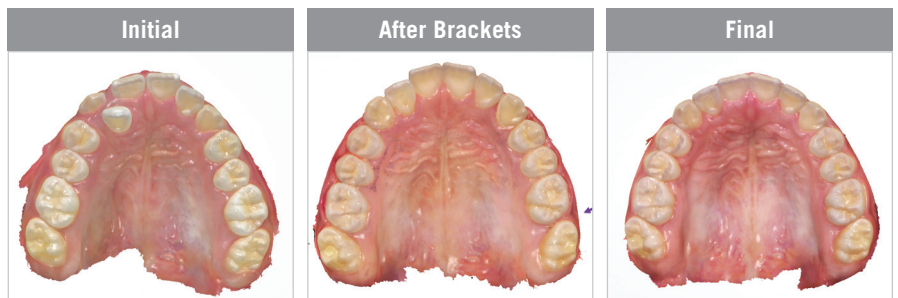
Why do you use a finishing aligner protocol?

We commonly combine brackets and finishing aligners for our patients, this way we can use the best tool for the job at hand and minimize chair time at the end of treatment when bending wires takes longer to achieve the results we want. By taking a combo approach from the beginning we can actually save in overall treatment time.

What are the clinical advantages when finishing with aligners?

Aligners are great at doing the detailing at the end of treatment when the patient is getting weary of wearing brackets or needs to get them off for an event. Brackets can do the heavy lifting and then a switch to aligners can be the perfect combo.

It is very common at the end of bracket treatment to discover small spaces or minor derotations. These can easily be fixed with just a few aligners to close the space and fix small rotations. I prefer a planned and controlled settling with aligners. This protocol is a modern version of a positioner appliance.



Finishing aligners used for closing spaces and adjusting the overjet and overbite

What are the patient benefits of finishing with aligners?

Patient satisfaction is the biggest benefit. They appreciate getting out of the brackets and seeing the progress. It can also really help with hygiene when needed. When we present the brackets with finishing aligners as a package to the patient in the beginning they understand the goal and switching to aligners for those final few weeks gives them something to look forward to.

What are your thoughts on the extra cost of aligners?

The finishing aligner protocol helps us to reduce the total number of visits to complete the treatment. This is a critical benchmark for me. The cost of aligners have been factored into the total cost of treatment. uLab pricing helps us to

reduce the total cost of aligners which includes the retainers and a custom storage case.

Learn More at uLabsystems.com or call 866-900-8522

ROOZ KHOSRAVI, DMD, PHD, MSD is a clinical associate professor of orthodontics at the University of Washington and practices at PORTH. He is passionate about integration of digital technology in the practice of orthodontics with primary focus on the implementation of dental 3D printing, clear aligner systems,



and digital interdisciplinary dentistry. Dr. Rooz is a key contributor collaborating with various companies who are pushing the boundaries of digital orthodontics.