

Getting veneers is not something to do on a whim. If you are serious about improving your smile, and want to get a look that is right for you and that will last well into the future, be sure your expectations are realistic, and that you do your research to find a doctor you can trust. - Dr. Jeffrey Weller, DDS.



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# COSMETIC DENTISTRY 101 -PORCELAIN VENEERS

Not all veneers are created equal and not all dentists are truly qualified to place them. To find out how to ensure that your veneers look as natural and beautiful as possible, we interviewed doctor Jeffrey A. Weller, Chicago's Smile Makeover dentist.

## Dr. Weller, how often do you see patients with cosmetic work they are not satisfied with?

Unfortunately, I see them fairly often. Just the other week a woman came to my office the day after she had her veneers placed by another dentist. She hated how they looked and wanted to get them fixed immediately. It reminds me how crucial it is to take the time to research what you are getting into. Cosmetic dentistry is similar to cosmetic surgery in the sense that different doctors have a different style, approach and training, and therefore different doctors are right for different people.

## What should a consumer look for when choosing a doctor?

First look at the doctor's work and then his training. This is really important because cosmetic dentistry is not a board-certified specialty. That means that any dentist can call him or herself a cosmetic dentist with no more than basic dental school education.

#### How exactly does the average consumer research the doctor's training?

Be direct. Ask the doctor to discuss training and credentials with you. Don't be intimidated. Remember, you are the one hiring this person. Some of the most prestigious postdoctoral training comes from the Rosenthal Institute for Aesthetic Dentistry at New York University. If you find a Rosenthal trained doc, you can be pretty sure the training is illustrious.

#### What else can one do to ensure the work is exactly what was hoped - and paid - for?

Be certain that the before and after photos belong to real patients of that particular doctor. Dentists can purchase stock photos for advertising purposes, so be sure of what you are looking at. Interview the doctor, read patient testimonials or ask to interview a current patient. In short, you need to get to know the doctor and be absolutely comfortable with his or her style, personality, experience, artistry and training before you have any work done. In my experience, when patients take these steps they find a dazzling smile and lasting comfort.

For more information about Dr. Weller and his practice, visit www.wellerdental.com.











