

SUPERWIRE

The arch wire(s) we placed in your mouth today are made from the latest, high tech materials (special alloys of nickel and titanium). Unlike the traditional stainless steel wires, which are used later in treatment, these new "**Super**" wires have an extreme amount of flexibility and a much gentler force level to move the teeth. What is most unusual and special about them is their response to temperature changes. When the wire is cooled down below mouth temperature (cold water) the wire becomes so soft that it feels like cooked spaghetti. This eliminates the need to tighten the braces as a cold wire can be displaced, with almost zero force, into a severely maligned tooth. Conversely when heated up slightly (coffee, tea, warm water; soup) the wire develops stiffness, moving the teeth rapidly, but almost painlessly into position.

To take advantage of this breakthrough in orthodontic technology we recommend that you swish your mouth with cold water the first few days if the teeth feel too sore from the pressure of the wire. When the major discomfort passes then you can activate the wire and quicken your treatment by holding any warm liquid in your mouth for a short time.

An additional advantage of these wires is their long-term shape memory and range of activation. This means that the wire can actively move the teeth for months at a time without readjustment, allowing us to extend the interval between appointments to 6, 8 or even 10 weeks!