

GlasSpan®

Flexible Ceramic Bonding Material



User Guide

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Please be sure to read and understand
all instructions before use.

GlasSpan[®]

Flexible Ceramic Bonding Material

INTRODUCTION TO GLASSPAN

Welcome to the world of Flexible Ceramic Bonding.

GlasSpan is a flexible ceramic fiber reinforcement material that combines superior handling, ease of application and excellent aesthetics with outstanding long-term dimensional stability. Clinically proven since 1992, GlasSpan has helped clinicians address a variety of treatment needs, including anterior resin-bonded bridges, anterior and posterior periodontal splinting, post-trauma emergency stabilization of avulsed or injured teeth, and aesthetic, non-metallic post-orthodontic retention.

Colorless, presilanated GlasSpan fibers readily adapt to all tooth surfaces, are aesthetically pleasing when applied, and are easily cut to desired length, with no special scissors or handling required.

Cost effective and fully biocompatible, GlasSpan is available as an ultrathin woven tape or in three sizes of braided rope.



CUTTING GLASSPAN

GlasSpan material should be carefully removed from the vial using a sterile instrument and aseptic procedures. Immediately replace the cap to reseal and prevent contamination of the remaining supply.

A binder is placed on the ends of GlasSpan during manufacturing to prevent the material from unraveling. For best results, follow these instructions when cutting GlasSpan for use:



1. Place a small amount of clear bonding resin (2-3mm) next to the binder on one end and light cure.
2. Cut directly through this cured resin with any sharp scissors.
3. Measure the amount of GlasSpan material that you will need for your particular clinical application.
4. Place a second small amount of clear bonding resin (2-3mm) on GlasSpan at the spot determined by the measurement, and light cure.
5. Cut through this cured resin with sharp scissors.

GlasSpan is now cut to the proper length with no frayed ends.

USING RESINS WITH GLASSPAN

GlasSpan tapes and ropes are presilanated and readily attach to virtually all dental restorative composite resins, with no special adhesive system necessary. Though you may choose different sizes and configurations for various procedures, this basic method of fiber reinforcement application remains the same:

1. Etch the surfaces of teeth to receive GlasSpan with phosphoric acid etchant for 15-20 seconds. Rinse, dry, and isolate.
2. Apply dental adhesive or bonding agent to the etched surfaces and cure according to the manufacturer's protocol. Additional measures, such as the use of a rubber dam, placement of interproximal wedges, etc., can be used to prevent flow of bonding materials into embrasure spaces.
3. After cutting GlasSpan to length as instructed under CUTTING GLASSPAN, coat the entire length of GlasSpan with a thin layer of your dental adhesive to wet the ceramic surface. Do NOT light cure.
4. Coat the same length of GlasSpan with a layer of low-viscosity flowable "coating resin." If you place porcelain veneers and have luting resin, you will be able to use this for the coating. Do NOT light cure. Protect the prepared material from light.

5. Place a layer of flowable or hybrid composite resin flat onto the tooth surfaces previously treated with adhesive or clear bond. Do NOT light cure.
6. Lay the prepared GlasSpan material into the composite resin and compress into position. Tack cure.
7. Cover GlasSpan completely with a flowable resin or thin layers of hybrid composite resin and compress into place, light curing as required by the application.
8. Utilizing finishing burs, polishers, and polishing paste, smooth and polish the surface to final contours. GlasSpan ceramic fibers will not fray if exposed and can be recoated without harm.

COMMON APPLICATION CHART

	Woven Tape	Small Rope	Medium Rope	Large Rope
Vial Cap Color	Green	Purple	Yellow	Blue
Length	3.75"/95mm	3.50"/89mm	3.50"/89mm	3.50"/89mm
Width (Diameter)	0.10"/2.5mm	0.035"/0.9mm	0.050"/1.3mm	0.065"/1.7mm
Application	Post-Ortho Retention	•		
	Resin-Bonded Bridge	•		
	Anterior Splinting	•	•	•
	Emergency Stabilization		•	•
	Posterior Splinting			•

PROCEDURAL CONSIDERATIONS

The following pages are intended to acquaint you with some of the potential clinical applications of GlasSpan. Remember that although applications vary, the basic method described under USING RESINS WITH GLASSPAN remains the same.

Anterior Post-Orthodontic Retention and Anterior Periodontal Splinting

Woven Tape	Small Rope	Medium Rope	Large Rope
•	•		

Once active orthodontic therapy is complete, retention of the lower anteriors traditionally requires fabrication of a lingual holding arch formed using braided or solid metal wire attached with restorative resin. Periodontal splinting of anterior teeth usually involves extensive wire ligation. In both cases, traditional procedures are difficult, time-consuming, and yield unaesthetic results.

In the woven tape form, GlasSpan can be attached directly to the lingual surfaces of the lower anterior teeth. This technique offers an efficient and aesthetic alternative to traditional metal wire methods.

Special Notes:

1. Prior to placing GlasSpan into position, place a bead of hybrid composite resin approximately 0.75-1.0mm in diameter and compress it flat against the pretreated tooth surfaces.
2. In some splinting cases, mechanical preparation of a channel along the lingual surfaces of the involved teeth might be advisable. Whether or not such a prep is required, application of GlasSpan is the same.

Post-Trauma Stabilization and Splinting of Avulsed Teeth

Woven Tape	Small Rope	Medium Rope	Large Rope
	•	•	



Teeth that have been avulsed due to trauma require immediate attention. Reimplantation and stabilization must be accomplished quickly. After reimplantation or repositioning of injured teeth, a labial application of GlasSpan rope can be used to directly bond the avulsed tooth to the adjacent teeth for emergency splinting.

Special Note:

For added strength, cut the GlasSpan rope to length WITHOUT first binding the fibers with clear bonding resin. Insert the tip of the flowable hybrid composite syringe about 2-3mm into the hollow end of the GlasSpan rope. Inject the composite into the rope until it is extruded from the other end. Proceed as instructed in Step 4 under USING RESINS WITH GLASSPAN.

Posterior Splinting

Woven Tape	Small Rope	Medium Rope	Large Rope
		•	•

It is often necessary to stabilize teeth which exhibit excessive mobility due to the loss of periodontal support. Conventional techniques involve the use of the A-Splint or prefabricated metal bars.

GlasSpan braided rope, used in conjunction with composite resin, offers both a simplified approach and superior aesthetics for intra-coronal posterior splinting. The small channel required for GlasSpan allows for less tooth reduction, and reduced chair time.

Special Notes:

1. Start the mechanical preparation by creating a channel wide enough to accept GlasSpan rope and restorative resin, mesio-distally along the occlusal surfaces of the teeth to be splinted.
2. After placing a thin layer of hybrid composite onto the floor of the channel and seating the GlasSpan rope, have the patient bite into normal occlusion and cure from the buccal side. This will help position mobile teeth.
3. Fill the channel and cover the GlasSpan with composite resin to complete the restoration.

Anterior Resin-Bonded Bridge

Woven Tape	Small Rope	Medium Rope	Large Rope
•			

GlasSpan woven tape provides excellent support for immediate provisionalization of extracted teeth that are awaiting final restoration. This technique allows you to create an aesthetic temporary restoration that, when shaped and positioned correctly, enables the provider to predictably shape the gingiva during healing. This technique also provides a conservative treatment option for geriatric patients.

To increase the strength of the bridge in long-term applications, prepare the lingual surfaces of the abutment teeth with a channel to receive the GlasSpan tape. This step is generally not needed and may not be desirable in immediate, short-term, temporary applications.

Prepare the lingual surfaces of the abutment teeth and apply the GlasSpan tape following the procedures listed above under USING RESINS WITH GLASSPAN. This creates a reinforced “bridge” across the open space.

Fabricate the pontic using either the natural avulsed tooth or an acrylic denture tooth. In either case, create a channel large enough to accept the GlasSpan Tape on the lingual surface of the pontic.

CONTACT US

Share your GlasSpan success stories with us!

As the manufacturer of GlasSpan Fiber Ceramic Bonding Material, we are very interested in learning about and sharing your clinical results. And as challenging clinical situations continue to arise in dentistry, new applications for flexible ceramic bonding will continue to emerge.

Please feel free to email us your GlasSpan treatment pictures and descriptive commentary to: **glasspan@practicon.com**

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