Matrix Selection Guide

Being the Matrix Company, one of the most common questions we get is "which matrix do I use where?"
While personal preference will drive much of the decision process, below is a chart that can provide a good starting point.

Procedure	Recommended Materials	Pros and Cons
Back-to-Back 	**BEST CHOICE:** Quad Ring, Quad Wedge, Firm Band	**Pros:** Ring driver tip and split wedge work together. Firm Bands prevent deformation. Reduced patient chair time. **Cons:** Learning curve.
Wide Prep 	**BEST CHOICE:** Strata-G Wide Prep Ring, Firm Band **OPTION 2:** 3D Fusion Wide Prep Ring, Firm Band **OPTION 3:** Reel Matrix	**Pros:** Smaller ring diameter. The only sectional ring that can perform on wide preps. **Cons:** Limited application. Not recommended for basic Class II. **Pros:** Similar performance to Strata-G. **Cons:** Larger ring diameter. **Pros:** For teeth too broken down for a sectional matrix system. **Cons:** Less ideal contour and contact compared to a sectional matrix solution.
Deep Prep 	**BEST CHOICE:** Quad Ring, Quad Wedge, and Firm Band **OPTION 2:** Strata-G Ring, Strata-G Wedge, and Firm Band	**Pros:** Split tip wedge sits deep in sulcus and is less likely to be pushed up by the gingiva. **Cons:** N/A **Pros:** Strata-G wedge sits deeper than most wedges. **Cons:** Strata-G wedge does not sit as deep as Quad.
Class III 	**BEST CHOICE:** Anterior Fusion **OPTION 2:** Vari-Strip	**Pros:** Natural emergence profile and interproximal contours. **Cons:** Learning curve. Shape may not be appropriate for all teeth. (i.e. bulbous). Not cure through. **Pros:** Simple. Cure through. **Cons:** Susceptible to deformation during use.
Class IV 	**BEST CHOICE:** Anterior Fusion **OPTION 2:** Vari-Strip	**Pros:** Natural emergence profile and interproximal contours. **Cons:** Learning curve. Shape may not be appropriate for all teeth. (i.e. bulbous). Not cure through. **Pros:** Simple. Cure through. **Cons:** Susceptible to deformation during use.
Class V 	**BEST CHOICE:** Blue View Cervical	**Pros:** Compresses composite into the restoration. Limited finishing required. **Cons:** N/A

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Special Cases

Procedure	Recommended Materials	Pros and Cons
Deep Margin Elevation 	**BEST CHOICE:** ReelMatrix, Deep Margin Elevation Band (P/N RM500H) **OPTION 2:** Deep Margin Elevation Tofflemire Band (P/N RM500H) with a standard tofflemire retainer	**Pros:** Ability to seal very deep lesions. Lightweight, retainerless. **Cons:** Will not restore whole tooth. Step one of a two step process. **Pros:** Ability to seal very deep lesions. **Cons:** Retainer can torque the band out of position.
Last Tooth in Arch/ Missing Adjacent Tooth 	**BEST CHOICE:** ReelMatrix **OPTION 2:** Tofflemire Slickbands	**Pros:** Circumferential band can be placed without the presence of adjacent dentition. Retainerless bands allow for simultaneous multi-tooth restoration. **Cons:** N/A **Pros:** Circumferential band can be placed without the presence of adjacent dentition. **Cons:** Retainer can torque the band our of position. Cannot perform simultaneous multi-tooth restorations.
Core Buildup 	**BEST CHOICE:** ReelMatrix **OPTION 2:** Tofflemire Slickbands	**Pros:** Circumferential band can be placed without the presence of adjacent dentition. Retainerless bands allow for simultaneous multi-tooth restoration. **Cons:** N/A **Pros:** Circumferential band can be placed without the presence of adjacent dentition. **Cons:** Retainer can torque the band our of position. Cannot perform simultaneous multi-tooth restorations.
Pedo 	**BEST CHOICE:** Strata-G Universal Ring **OPTION 2:** ReelMatrix	**Pros:** Retention capability on shorter teeth. **Cons:** N/A **Pros:** Speed. **Cons:** Less ideal contour and contact to a sectional matrix solution.
Distal of Canine 	**BEST CHOICE:** Strata-G Universal Ring **OPTION 2:** 3D Fusion Universal Ring **OPTION 3:** ReelMatrix	**Pros:** Retention capability. **Cons:** May not retain in all circumstances. **Pros:** Similar retention capability to the Strata-G. **Cons:** May not retain in all circumstances. **Pros:** ReelMatrix will work where a sectional matrix ring will not grip appropriately. **Cons:** Less ideal contour and contact to a sectional matrix solution.
Mal-Positioned	**BEST CHOICE:** Quad Ring	**Pros:** Adapts to tooth rotation. **Cons:** N/A

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