

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
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 Pros: Smaller ring diameter. The only sectional ring that can perform on wide preps. Cons: Limited application. Not recommended for basic Class II. OPTION 2: 3D Fusion Wide Prep Ring, Firm Band Pros: Similar performance to Strata-G. Cons: Larger ring diameter. OPTION 3: Reel Matrix 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 Pros: Split tip wedge sits deep in sulcus and is less likely to be pushed up by the gingiva. Cons: N/A OPTION 2: Strata-G Ring, Strata-G Wedge, and Firm Band 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 Pros: Natural emergence profile and interproximal contours. Cons: Learning curve. Shape may not be appropriate for all teeth. (i.e. bulbous). Not cure through. OPTION 2: Vari-Strip Pros: Simple. Cure through. Cons: Susceptible to deformation during use.
Class IV 	BEST CHOICE: Anterior Fusion Pros: Natural emergence profile and interproximal contours. Cons: Learning curve. Shape may not be appropriate for all teeth. (i.e. bulbous). Not cure through. OPTION 2: Vari-Strip 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

See Deep Margin
Elevation for extreme
deep margin case

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Special Cases

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