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Things to Know Before Choosing a Dentist by [Dr. Heather](#)

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People often don't find the need to consult a dentist unless there's a problem that needs immediate attention. And such a dentist is often chosen after searching the phone book. But there are better ways to look for a dentist in your area, here are some:

The Search:

The Academy of General Dentistry website helps people by listing out dentists registered under them. All you have to do is to enter the zip code, or city, or the state. You can also mention the maximum distance which the dentist is to be located. Friends, family members and co workers can also help you in the process. Your family GP can also guide to the right dentist. Of course, the telephone book is also the right source; you can look for them under the title "dentists" or "associates".

The Process:

Not all dentists are created equal and perform the same operations. While some undertake simple procedures like relieving pain, and pulling teeth, there are others who specialize in cosmetic procedures like teeth whitening, dental implants, etc. And there are others that specialize in orthodontics and teeth straightening. The dentist that you choose should specialize in the procedure that you are looking for. For instance, it is common for general dentists to advertise for cosmetic dentistry. But only a specialist who has undergone training in this aspect can help you with specialized projects like dental implants, veneers and bonding. And if you are looking to straighten your teeth, only orthodontics can help you out. If you are already consulting a dentist, he can help you get in touch with these specialists.

Needless to say, do not commit to the first dentist that you speak to. You can ask him about his office hours, the distance from your home or office to his office, provisions for emergencies, presence of dental plans etc. Some dental professionals use modern techniques like digital x-rays, 3D imaging, and CEREC instead of old and outdated technology that is painful and time consuming.

Be Aware of:

Most dentists offer a free no obligations consultation. Before you agree to the treatment, do not proceed unless the dentist explains clearly about the problem, the course of the treatment, and the estimation of the costs. Dentists are more than willing to share information on the process and procedure; and also suggest an action plan.

These are just some of the things to be mindful of, before choosing a dentist.

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The author of this article is a [Snellville Dentist](#) and helps people choose the right dentist, including a [Snellville Dentist](#).

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