

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.



FAQ's

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

What scale of projects do you work on?

I'd like to expand my existing practice?

If you are planning to expand your practice there are lots of things to consider. We are happy to assist you from the initial planning stages. Talk to us about what you'd like to achieve that we'll help you make it a reality.

I would like to build a new practice?

You may be taking an existing space / building and turning it into a new practice or you may be developing a 'green field' site, either way we can help. Over the past 30 years we have made more dental industry professionals practice dreams a reality than anyone else in South Australia. Our practices are renowned as some of the best presented and most functional in the state.

I'd like to renovate an existing practice?

We commonly help people to get the most out of their existing space. You may be thinking about your options for expanding the practice, or reallocating space to improve efficiency and productivity or to meet the needs of an evolving practice. Maybe you would like to give the practice a new and revitalised look. Whatever you're plan we can help.

Can I renovate just one room within my practice?

Yes, we can complete fit outs for single rooms right up to large scale building works. You can focus on just one surgery or a specific room, sterilisation, reception etc. We are happy to work with you and your budget.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Site Evaluations?

Can you assist with finding an adequate site?

Yes we can! We can, and commonly do, evaluate properties for their suitability of becoming a future dental practice. We recommend that you make use of our 'Site Evaluation' service before you purchase or lease a property. There are many considerations that are specific to a dental practice that will determine if a particular property is suited to your needs. This goes well beyond the size and location of the property and ultimately it is the local council that will determine what any particular property can be used for, we can assist and give you advice in this area as well.

What are the costs for a site evaluation?

For us to meet you on site and evaluate the site and discuss your plans for it there is no cost. We will happily give you a verbal evaluation and our no obligation professional advice for free. Why not take advantage of this service, it could save you a great deal of effort, time and money.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Concept & Design?

What are the design costs?

Our design costs are fixed based on the scale and scope of the project. Once we know what it is that you would like to achieve we can give you a fixed design fee that covers the design process from start to finish.

Do you use specialist Architects?

We work with a specialist medical/dental architectural firm. We do this so that we have access to a large amount of specialist resources, at any time we have access to a team of architects, drafts persons and interior designers so we do not have issues where a lack of specialist man power holds up a project. This also gives us a 'direct line' to Local Council planning departments with a team that is recognised as being one of the best in the state.

How do you handle council approvals?

Our architectural team handles the process and documentation necessary for a projects council approval (Development Planning Consent). The process is managed by us on your behalf and all you'll need to do is pay the relevant council fees.

What is Building Rules Consent (BRC)?

Your designs need to undergo building rules consent analysis to ensure that they comply with the Australian building code. This can be done by the council but it can also be done quicker if you use a private certifier. We use a specialist consultant for this part of the process to ensure a timely result.

Do I need building certification after the project has been completed?

When the project has been completed it needs to be certified as complying with the Australian building code so that a certificate of occupancy can be issued and you can occupy the space. This can be done by the council but it can also be done quicker if you use a specialist consultant. We use a private certifier for this part of the process to ensure a timely result.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Concept & Design?

What are the specific design considerations for a dental practice?

Just as dental is a specialised field so is the design of the space that it is conducted in. Everything about a dental practice needs to be designed with an understanding of how a dental practice operates efficiently. The flow of staff and patients, the most appropriate allocation of space and room sizes, the infection control protocols and the dental equipment used in the treatment rooms all affect the design of the practice as a whole. The optimal design for a dental practice needs to achieve the desired results in these areas as well as satisfying the clients brief for aesthetic and personal appeal. This task in itself is a specialised endeavour that requires a specialist design team.

What about the design of the joinery (cabinets)?

The design of the joinery for treatment rooms is critical to their productivity. Dental Concepts use custom designed joinery manufactured to the highest quality standards available. Some of our primary considerations when designing a treatment room joinery package are operatory team ergonomics, the need for highly specialised storage solutions, operator specific requirements, equipment specific requirements and personal preferences. We recommend a visit to our showroom to see this important part of your working environment for yourself.

Do you consider infection control during the design process?

Of course we do, we have to. Part of being dental industry specific is that we understand how a dental practice operates and we design with this in mind. A large part of this has to be infection control so this is an important aspect of the design process. This goes well beyond the STERIL room itself and in fact the entire design of the practice considers infection control. When we design the layout of rooms, use of the space in each room, the allocation of storage, the flow of staff and patients and the selection of materials for construction we consider the best solutions to satisfy infection control guidelines.

Do you have interior design services?

Yes, we have a team of fully qualified interior designers who can work with you to design a concept and style that fits you, your practice and your personality. This is a highly specialised and personal task and one that has a large impact on the overall result of the completed project. We find that no two practices are alike just as no two personal tastes are alike so the use of a professional interior designer ensures that the result is not only of the highest possible quality but is one that you are happy with.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Concept & Design?

Are there standard finishes and materials that you include in your designs?

We do have standard materials that we recommend when we design your practice. These are selected considering infection control guidelines and our own quality control standards. We construct dental practices with the view that they will be around for decades and as such we use materials of the highest quality to ensure that they are looking as good as new many years down the track. This by no means limits how your practice will look, with literally hundreds of colours and finishes for you to choose from.

What sort of documentation is produced?

The documentation can differ based on the scope of the project. What is important is that nothing is left to chance. We provide documentation to support the council development application, the building rules consent application and the actual construction work. As well as providing architectural sketch drawings and, if needed, elevations and renderings to help our clients get a clear understanding of the design. We do not produce documentation that is not necessary and this saves you on design fees. As our construction teams are dental practice specialists we do not need to produce detailed dental specific services drawings and engineering, we know dental practices and how to build them so we don't need to waste your money documenting it, it's what we do.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Construction?

Who manages the construction process?

We do! The entire construction phase of the project is managed by us, we do not out source a project manager. The person managing the project will be the same person you would have worked with to get to this stage. This gives you continuity and confidence that your project will be delivered as planned and as you had expected.

Who does the actual construction work?

We do! Our construction team consists of qualified builders that are dental and medical industry specialists. This means that they fully understand how a dental facility is not only constructed but operates as well. They understand dental equipment, dental specific services, infection control and the efficient use of space in dental environments, critical knowledge that a general builder doesn't have. This knowledge goes a long way to ensuring that the construction of your project is as efficient as possible. They are also renowned throughout the building industry for delivering our projects to the highest standards achievable and take great pride in maintaining this reputation.

How long does construction take?

The actual construction phase of a project varies based on the size of the project and the scope of works. To assist you we can give you estimates of the projects time line from the initial design phase. We feel that it is necessary to give you a realistic time frame that is specific to your project, how can you plan to run your business otherwise?

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Construction?

How much will the construction cost?

Cost will depend on the scope of works for the project. What is important is the way that we approach this for our clients. We work on a fixed price contract for the construction portion of our projects. This is uncommon in the dental construction industry. This gives you complete piece of mind that before your project begins you know exactly what it will cost to complete. You can have total confidence that there will be no cost 'blow out' in fact there will be no change to the costs quoted at all unless you decide it.

What do your construction costs include?

There are certain elements that are not included in our construction cost. Examples of these are soft furnishings (waiting room and office chairs etc.) and dental equipment. When we provide your construction contract we also provide a list of standard inclusions that details all of the items we include as part of the construction costs. This makes it easy for you to know what we promise to deliver as part of the construction of the project.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Dental Equipment?

Can you assist with equipment planning?

Yes, we have over 30 years of experience within the dental industry. We sell and service dental equipment and are happy to assist with your equipment planning. As the equipment that you use is a key consideration in the design of any project it makes good sense to have a team that can understand your equipment needs as well as your design needs.

Does the dental equipment I use influence the design of my treatment rooms?

Of course, that's why we want to hear about it before we design your work space. Even the basic things 'Are you left or right handed?' make a difference to how your treatment room should be set up. Then there is the best use of the space and organising the space considering the things that are important to you. Our dental experience means that we know the right questions to ask so that you get the most functional space.

I'm a specialist do you consider that I operate differently from a general dentist?

Most definitely, it's our job to know that specialists operate differently from a general dentist. Further to this, what is important is that we can hear and understand how you would like to work in your new space and suggest the best design solution to achieve this for you. This rings true no matter what service you are providing, but it is critical for doctors performing specialist work.

Dental surgery design and construction frequently asked questions.

Why choose Dental Concepts?

What do you offer that is different from other companies?

Our quality of workmanship, quality products, specialist staff and reliability is our focus. The majority of our design and construction work is repeat business or is generated through word of mouth. This means that our reputation in this area is everything and its safe to say that if we didn't deliver what we promised we wouldn't still be around 30 years down the track.

Our experience within the dental industry gives us the knowledge and expertise to deliver what we plan. We can confidently promise to maximise your space and improve your efficiency and productivity. Our design services ensure that your rooms are the optimum size for their intended use and that the ergonomics are designed with the practice staffs needs as a priority. Ultimately we know dental and we know what works.