



### **Thermoplastic Flexible Partial Denture Adjustment Techniques:**

- If patient feels pain when biting down, possible reasons may be:
  - Open bite: check the occlusion and reduce the occlusion.
  - Overextended flange: reduce the flange accordingly.
- If patient senses discomfort due to tightness of the clasp, the clasp may be loosened slightly by submerging that part in hot water for approximately 30 seconds, removing it and gently bending the clasp outward while holding it underneath running cold tap water. Following the same procedure but bending the clasp inward can also tighten the clasp.
- There are a variety of burs that are specifically designed for thermoplastic materials.
- Set your hand piece on a low speed (32,000 to 35,000 rpm) and use fast, light scraping back and forth movements to reduce area. Do not keep bur in one spot, be sure to keep it in constant motion. Do not use too much pressure as this may burn or distort the restoration.
- Do not use the tools that are normally used for conventional removable dentures and partials as they may not be effective on thermoplastics.
- Rubber wheels or points are ideal for making small adjustments and/or smoothing after adjustments have been made. Usually the brown rubber wheel/point will leave the case smooth and shiny and it will not be necessary to re-polish.
- If there are threads remaining, these can be removed with a sharp blade.

### **Adjustment Tools:**

- Carbide Burs – To cut through thermoplastic materials.
- Green Mounted Stones – Ideal for chair-side adjustments.
- Large Rubber Point – Ideal for smoothing after adjustments.
- Small Rubber Point – Ideal for smoothing after adjustments.
- Carving Knife – To remove fibers that sometimes appear on thermoplastic restorations during adjustment.