LUSH DENTAL STUDIO



FREE GUIDE · 2026 EDITION

The Lush *Veneer Guide*

A practical guide to porcelain veneers: no-prep versus prepped, how many teeth to treat, gum levels, cost, and how to choose who does the work, with real cases from Lush Dental Studio.

Reviewed by Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD · Lush Dental Studio, Natomas, Sacramento

Cover: four porcelain veneers (teeth #7–10) at Lush Dental Studio. The same results may not occur for all patients.

INSIDE

What this guide *covers.*

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Porcelain veneers are thin, custom ceramic shells bonded to the front surface of a tooth. They are often used for chips, stains that whitening does not change, gaps, or teeth that look small or misshapen[1,4]. This guide stays on porcelain veneers: how they are planned, how much tooth is typically prepared, and what to ask before treatment begins.

About Lush Dental Studio

Lush Dental Studio is a cosmetic and general dental practice at 2860 Del Paso Rd #300 in Natomas, Sacramento. Cosmetic care is led by Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD (University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry, 2017), who practices with three Lush doctors and an in-house dental lab. Patients rate Lush 4.9 stars across 1,300+ Google reviews, and it was voted Sacramento's Best Cosmetic Dentist (Sacramento Favorites 2023–2026).

This guide is general education, not a diagnosis. The right treatment depends on an exam. General facts are cited to the American Dental Association (MouthHealthy) and Cleveland Clinic; Lush-specific facts come from lushdentalstudio.com.

Sources (accessed Nov 26, 2026): 1 ADA MouthHealthy, “Veneers,” mouthhealthy.org/all-topics-a-z/veneers · 4 Cleveland Clinic, “Dental Veneers,” my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/23522-dental-veneers · 5 Cleveland Clinic, “Gum Contouring,” my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/25208-gum-contouring · 6 Cleveland Clinic, “Gingivectomy,” my.clevelandclinic.org/health/treatments/24749-gingivectomy · Lush fees, visits, warranty, no-prep candidacy, gum contouring, process and financing: lushdentalstudio.com/veneers-sacramento/, /porcelain-veneers-sacramento/, /no-prep-veneers-sacramento/, /laser-gum-contouring-sacramento/, /dental-financing-sacramento/, /how-to-choose-a-cosmetic-dentist-sacramento/.

CHAPTER 1

No-prep or *prepped?*

Conventional porcelain veneers typically involve some enamel preparation so the veneer can sit flush with the neighboring teeth. The ADA notes that veneers are generally considered irreversible once enamel is removed[1]. Not every porcelain case is prepared the same way. Dentists often talk about a spectrum, from adding ultra-thin porcelain with little or no reduction, to a conventional prep of about half a millimeter.

Approach	Enamel typically removed	Often a fit when	Often not a fit when
No-prep	Little to none	Smaller or slightly worn teeth, gaps or spacing to fill, and healthy enamel	Teeth that protrude or are crowded (added porcelain can look bulky); dark staining that can show through thin porcelain
Minimal-prep	A very small amount (at Lush, often less than 0.3 mm)	A slightly flush fit would help, without a full conventional prep	When even a small reduction is unnecessary, or when a conventional prep is the better fit
Conventional (prepped)	About 0.3–0.5 mm, roughly a fingernail's thickness	Heavier discoloration or larger shape changes that need more ceramic thickness	When a more conservative option can still reach the goal

At Lush Dental Studio, which approach fits is decided by **Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD** at the consult, against the actual teeth. No-prep is a clinical decision, not a menu item. No-prep cases are designed in the in-house lab to keep the porcelain thin. Placement often needs no anesthetic and usually skips the temporary stage that conventional veneers use.

Reversibility, stated carefully. Conventional prepped veneers are generally not reversible, because enamel is removed[1]. With no-prep, little to no enamel is removed, so the natural tooth is largely preserved — but "largely preserved" is not the same as risk-free or guaranteed reversible. Removal or replacement still has to be done carefully. A promise of completely reversible, zero-downside veneers is overselling.

1 ADA MouthHealthy, Veneers. Lush candidacy and process: lushdentalstudio.com/no-prep-veneers-sacramento/. Full links on page 8.

CHAPTER 2

How many teeth *to treat.*

The right number of veneers is the number that makes the smile look even in real life, not only in a close-up of two front teeth. Dentists typically watch a wide, natural smile to see which teeth actually show — the smile width. Some people show six upper teeth, from canine to canine. Others show eight or ten, including the premolars at the corners.

Teeth often discussed	What this usually covers	A real Lush porcelain case
2 (#8 and #9)	A local issue on the two front teeth, when the neighboring teeth already match	Veneers on #8 and #9 for a discolored tooth
4 (#7–10)	The four front teeth, when gaps, chips or length are concentrated there	Four porcelain veneers to close gaps
6 (#6–11)	Canine to canine, a common width for a social smile	Planned at the consult when that is the smile width
8 (#5–12)	Includes the first premolars, often visible in a wider smile	Eight porcelain veneers for a chipped front edge
10 (#4–13)	A broader smile, or replacing an existing set of veneers	Ten porcelain veneers replacing an old set

Upper versus lower

Most porcelain veneer plans treat the upper teeth, because those dominate a smile. Lower veneers are sometimes added when the lower teeth show clearly in a wide smile, or when a new upper shade would otherwise look unmatched. That is decided at the exam, not in advance.

Why the count sometimes grows

Two veneers have to blend with the neighboring natural teeth. If the goal is a shade lighter than those neighbors, whitening the remaining teeth first — or veneering more teeth — is often what keeps the smile even. The final count is set at the consult, after the exam and photos. At Lush, porcelain veneers are $1,700 per tooth (regularly $2,200) for new porcelain veneer patients through March 31, 2027.

CHAPTER 3

Gum levels *and symmetry.*

The gumline is the frame around the teeth. Even well-made veneers can look off if the gums are uneven, or if a lot of gum shows when a person smiles. Cleveland Clinic describes gum contouring (also called gum reshaping) as a way to treat an uneven gumline or a "gummy smile," where extra gum covers part of the teeth[5]. A related procedure, gingivectomy, removes extra gum tissue[6].

When it is often considered

- A gummy smile, when front teeth look short mainly because of the gum
- An uneven gumline, where the gums sit higher on some front teeth than on others
- As part of a veneer plan, so the gums and the new porcelain line up

When it is often not the first step

- Active gum disease, which is typically treated first[5]
- When the teeth themselves need a new shape or shade and the gumline is already even
- When the bone under the gum sits high — a simple gum trim may not hold

Bone level matters. If the bone under the gum sits high, a simple gingivectomy may not be enough, and a different procedure — crown lengthening that also reshapes bone — may be the more stable plan. Cleveland Clinic notes that if there is too much bone around the teeth, a small amount may need to be addressed, or the gums may grow back[5]. At Lush, that is checked at the consult, not from a photo alone.



A Lush case: laser gum contouring on the four front teeth (#7–10); the teeth themselves were not changed. Photos: Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD. The same results may not occur for all patients.

At Lush, Dr. Khan uses a laser to reshape the gum so more of the natural tooth shows, when the teeth themselves already look good. The area is numbed. Mild tenderness for a few days is common, and the gumline can continue to settle over the following weeks. Healing varies. Some rebound can happen, especially if the gums become inflamed again or if the bone was not at a level that can hold the new shape. Lush does not guarantee a specific tooth length or a specific amount of gum display.

When both gum contouring and veneers are part of the same plan, Lush typically reshapes the gum frame before the porcelain is finalized.

5 Cleveland Clinic, Gum Contouring · 6 Cleveland Clinic, Gingivectomy. Lush: lushdentalstudio.com/laser-gum-contouring-sacramento/.

CHAPTER 4

The process, *cost and care.*

How a conventional porcelain veneer case typically runs at Lush Dental Studio. No-prep cases often skip the temporary stage (Chapter 1).

1. **Free cosmetic consult ($150 value)**
   Exam and X-rays, goals, and photos of smiles the patient likes and does not. Decay or gum disease is treated first[1]. Options and costs are reviewed before anything is scheduled.
2. **Whiten first, then shade-match**
   Porcelain does not respond to whitening gel, so natural teeth are typically brightened first and the veneers are matched to that shade.
3. **Preparation, when it is needed**
   For a conventional case, about 0.3–0.5 mm of enamel. Veneers are generally considered irreversible once enamel is removed[1].
4. **Temporaries: the preview**
   Patients wear natural-looking temporaries, then return to review shape, length and feel. That feedback shapes the final design.
5. **Final porcelain from the in-house lab**
   Designed, shaded against the smile and adjusted at try-in under one roof. Typically 2–3 visits over 2–3 weeks.
6. **Protect the result**
   Normal hygiene, regular cleanings, and a night guard if the patient grinds. Porcelain veneers at Lush carry a 5-year warranty.

What it costs at Lush

Teeth	Porcelain veneers at $1,700/tooth
2	$3,400
4	$6,800
6	$10,200
8	$13,600
10	$17,000

Fee: $1,700 per tooth (regularly $2,200) for new porcelain veneer patients through March 31, 2027. Total cost depends on how many teeth, and whether whitening, gum contouring or other care is needed first. **Estimate only; the final fee is set at the consult.**

How long they last, and care

Cleveland Clinic puts veneer lifespan at about 10–15 years with proper care[4]. The ADA notes a veneer may chip, crack, wear or loosen over time, and that veneers may not be a good choice for people who clench, grind, or have a deep overbite[1].

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste and clean between teeth[1]
- Go easy on coffee, tea and red wine[1,4]
- Wear a night guard if grinding is a factor; a mouthguard for sports[1]

Financing. Cherry payment plans, 0% APR for 12 months if the patient qualifies; approval and terms are set by Cherry. Cosmetic work is often elective under dental plans.

CHAPTER 5

How to choose *a cosmetic dentist.*

Cosmetic dentistry is not an ADA-recognized specialty, so the title alone tells little. These are the things worth checking at any consult.

Credentials

Look for a dentist's training and for fellowships such as FAGD or FICOI. Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD, graduated from the University of the Pacific, Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in 2017, and holds both fellowships.

A portfolio of real cases

Same lighting and angles, close-ups, and cases like the one being discussed — not only stock photos. Lush publishes full case pages for work by Dr. Khan.

A mockup or preview

A way to see shape and length before the final porcelain is made. At Lush, conventional porcelain cases include temporaries that patients wear and review.

The lab

Who makes the veneers — in-house or mailed out — and how remakes are handled. Lush designs and finishes porcelain with an in-house dental lab.

Nine questions worth asking:

1. **Can I see cases, not stock photos?** Same lighting, close-ups, cases like this one.
2. **Who makes the veneers?** In-house lab or mailed out? How are remakes handled?
3. **Can the result be previewed?** A mock-up, or temporaries to wear and review.
4. **How much tooth will be removed?** Which teeth, roughly how much, and why. Is no-prep an option in this case?
5. **What would be done first?** Whitening, gum contouring, alignment. The order shows how a dentist thinks.
6. **How is the result protected?** Bite analysis, a night guard if needed, and a warranty in writing.
7. **What is the dentist's training?** Advanced education and fellowships such as FAGD or FICOI.
8. **Is the pricing transparent?** A per-tooth fee and what it includes, before anything is scheduled.
9. **Do the reviews talk about cosmetic work?** Read the detailed and the critical ones.

Red flags: pressure to decide on the spot; a plan for many veneers with no talk of whitening, gum levels or alignment; no real case photos; vague answers about who makes the restorations; a promise that veneers are completely reversible with no trade-offs.

CHAPTER 6

Real Lush *porcelain cases.*



Eight porcelain veneers (#5–12) for a chipped front edge



Four porcelain veneers (#7–10) to close gaps and even short edges



Veneers on two front teeth (#8, #9) for a discolored tooth



Ten porcelain veneers (#4–13) replacing an old set

Each case is a different patient. All work by Dr. Moid Khan, DDS, FICOI, FAGD at Lush Dental Studio. The same results may not occur for all patients.

Book Free Consult

Free cosmetic consultation ($150 value) includes X-rays. Porcelain veneers $1,700 per tooth (regularly $2,200) for new porcelain veneer patients through March 31, 2027. lushdentalstudio.com · (916) 619-7172 · 2860 Del Paso Rd #300, Sacramento · Mon–Fri 8–5, Sat 8–2