

# custom (CAD/CAM) prosthetics overview



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## custom (CAD/CAM) prosthetics overview

There are five steps to creating and delivering a custom (CAD/CAM) abutment and final restoration. The steps are as follows:

### 1 Digitize the impression

There are two primary ways to create a digital impression.

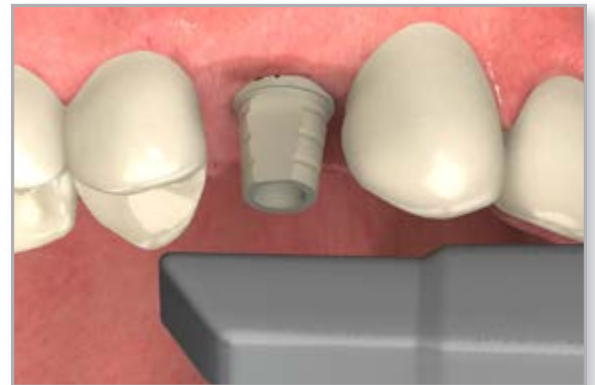
**Option A** - The first and most common method is to take an implant level impression, pour a stone model, place a software-dependent scan body onto the implant analog and scan the model using a 3D tabletop digital scanner.

For implant level impressions, refer to the [open tray technique using the direct pick-up coping](#) module, the [closed tray technique using the indirect transfer coping](#) module and the [closed tray pick-up technique using the snap coping](#) module.

**Option B** - The second method is to take an intra-oral digital impression by placing a software-dependent scan body into the implant and scan the scan body and surrounding dentition using a handheld 3D scanner.



**Important:** The scan body must be compatible with the scanner and have an associated abutment library in the design software.

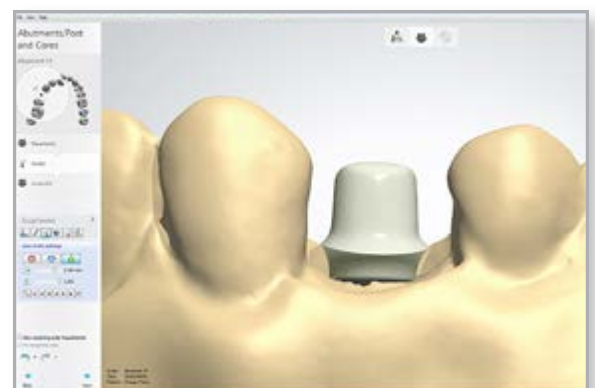


### 2 Design the abutment

The file that is created during the digital impression is imported into the design software that will be used by the technician to design the custom abutment. The crown may also be designed at this time depending on the desired workflow.



**Note:** The restorative clinician should approve the design before milling the abutment or fabricating the crown.





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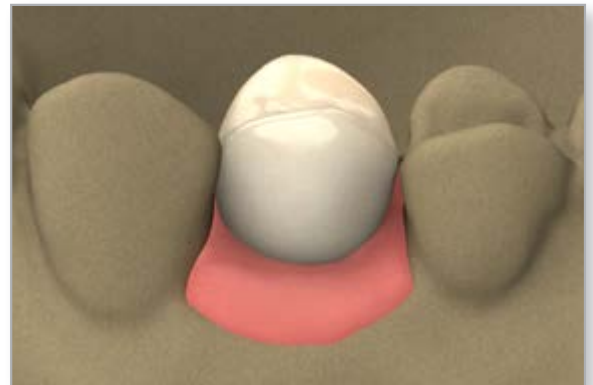
### 3 Lab step - Mill the abutment

Once the abutment design is confirmed and approved, the file is sent to a milling machine. After the milling is complete, a technician will inspect the abutment to ensure that it matches the original design. The abutment and abutment screw are sent to the laboratory for fabrication of the final crown.



### 4 Lab step - Fabricate the crown

The laboratory will use the custom abutment and stone model to complete the crown following routine laboratory procedures.



### 5 Deliver custom abutment and crown

The custom abutment and crown should be sanitized per standard clinical procedures. The abutment screw should be tightened to 30Ncm using an .050" (1.25mm) hex driver. The final crown should be cemented following the [crown cementation technique](#) module.



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