## **Self-Ligating / Friction Free Brackets**

Reduced Friction = Lower Forces





Innovation

Rocky Mountain

- Brackets are bonded directly on the front surface of the teeth using a special dental bonding material. They act like little handles attached to each tooth that allow Dr. W to move each individual tooth to the proper position during orthodontic treatment by adjusting the archwires that are attached to each bracket. For some patients, the use of the reduced friction bracket is the best treatment option.
- Reduced friction brackets are different in the way the archwires are attached to each bracket. Depending on the system, either a sliding door or raised center set of tie wings encloses and engages the archwire into the archwire slot instead of the traditional ligature tie. This prevents the archwire from being compressed against the back of the slot and creating resistance or friction on the archwire. By allowing for the archwire to move freely within the archwire slot, resistance is eliminated and greater patient comfort is experienced during treatment.
- The low friction bracketing systems allow for the use of much lighter forces (thinner and more flexible archwires) to move the teeth orthodontically. By eliminating the resistance created by the use of ligatures to hold the archwires to the brackets, these systems create superior tooth control and quality results in less time.
- The brackets are quite strong and able to withstand the normal forces of their environment like eating, drinking and toothbrushing. Care must be taken however to avoid any unnecessary forces such as: chewing ice or hard foods and eating very sticky or chewy foods.
- If you have any problems with a bracket detaching from the tooth, please call
  our office during the next business day and we can schedule an appointment for
  you to have it replaced as soon as possible. Please bring the bracket with you if
  it has separated completely from the archwire.