

NEW

# Piccolo™

THE FLOSSING ALTERNATIVE

**Making flossing as easy as brushing your teeth.**

**The best way to keep your gums healthy.**

**Clean around braces and bridges with ease.**



**The Piccolo brings you the technology to clean between your teeth gently and easily.**

Oral health is extremely important to maintaining good general health. Many modern diseases have been linked to poor oral health - for example, gum disease has been linked to cardiovascular disease, resulting in a shortened life expectancy.

Biofilm (plaque), the main cause of bleeding gums, is a sticky multi-layered film that houses bacteria. Biofilm forms over 72 hours so disturbing this process within the 72 hours stops the formation of hard plaque. Flossing once a day will disturb the formation three times in this critical time period.

It is essential to break through biofilm's protective outer layer and currently this can only be done mechanically. You will be familiar with your dentist scraping away at hard plaque on your teeth during routine check-up's. Carried out regularly, this keeps a handle on plaque build-up. However, it is not enough: plaque needs to be kept at bay before it gets to this stage.

Brushing alone is not enough to remove plaque as it only cleans two-thirds of the surface of your teeth. Flossing removes both trapped food and plaque between the teeth. It is more important to floss than to brush your teeth.

At home, interdental cleaning can be done by existing methods that use round bristles or fibres such as an interdental brushes or dental floss. The nature of plaque tends to lubricate the movement of round fibres across the surface of the tooth. As a result these methods require repeated rubbing to remove plaque and can damage the tooth surface and gums with repeated high contact pressure.

Also, some methods tend to push debris through the small gap at the base of the teeth and down below the gum line where it may cause infection.

It is also difficult to access back teeth using these products.

Only a small portion of the population - estimated at less than 20% - carry out flossing regularly because it is difficult, fiddly and time-consuming.

By offering a product that is quick and easy to use, and that eliminates the issues associated with existing products, it will attract more people to flossing and raise the overall usage.

## How can The Piccolo help?

- The Piccolo is a fully automated interdental cleaning unit that is quick and easy to use and, like an electric toothbrush, requires no particular hand dexterity or skill.
- The Piccolo should be used in place of, or if necessary, in conjunction with, the various interdental cleaning methods mentioned above.
- The Piccolo is suitable for everyone and in particular, people with bridgework, braces or other hard-to-access oral situations, as well as for those with poor hand dexterity.
- It is powered by a single AA battery.
- It comprises a handpiece (available in a choice of five colours) with a replacement filament tip that is attached to the handpiece with a simple half twist. This replacement filament tip has an advancing, rotating, very soft\* filament

that, when placed between the teeth at the gum line, self-threads between the teeth to extract food debris and disturb biofilm formation. (\* You might think the filament is far too soft and pliant to be effective, but bear in mind your gums in particular and the enamel on the tooth surface can be harmed with aggressive cleaning methods. Remember, the aim here is to only disturb the sticky biofilm and stop it forming into hard plaque.)

- The filament gently shears the soft biofilm from the tooth surface with minimal contact pressure and extracts it together with food particles.
- It is self-threading and does not require insertion pressure: just line it up at the interdental gap and it does all the work for you.
- The rotating filament covers irregular interdental spaces, leaving you with healthier gums, cleaner teeth and fresher breath.
- A range of replacement filament tips will be available ranging in size from ultra-fine to broad, as well as soft to very soft.
- Future smaller models are being developed more suitable for children.

## Where can I buy the Piccolo?

You can buy the Piccolo and replacement tips direct from our website or on eBay.

The Piccolo is made in Australia and therefore the handpiece and replacement filament tips can be easily obtained.

The Piccolo has a 12 month replacement guarantee against faulty manufacture.



*The Piccolo: available from our website in Blue, Lime, Lilac, Pink or Orange*

### Comparison Chart: The Piccolo versus some current flossing methods

	The PICCOLO	Floss Tape	Interdental Brushes	Dental Sticks
<b>Time to perform</b>	1-2 minutes	4-7 minutes	2-3 minutes	2-3 minutes
<b>Ease of use</b>	Very easy	Awkward / difficult	Moderately easy	Easy
<b>Interdental entry</b>	Self-threading or pulling into interdental gap	Snapped into place (food debris under compression)	Pushed into place (food debris under compression)	Pushed into place (food debris under compression)
<b>Coverage of interdental space</b>	Gyrating filament covers molar indentations  90% coverage	Follows tooth surface and forms a straight line, missing molar indentations  80% coverage	Bristles expand into cavities  90% coverage	The stiff, straight filament misses molar indentations  < 50% coverage
<b>Interdental debris removal</b>	Mechanical extraction by filament	Pulled through side of gap on removal	Trapped in bristles of brush on removal	Pushed through
<b>Surface biofilm removal action</b>	Rotating helical grooved filament gently shears biofilm from surface	Rubs surface exerting high pressure to tooth	Multiple round bristles rub tooth surface	Mostly used for food removal; does not remove biofilm

**Coates Pty Ltd** is proudly 100% Australian owned and is based in Sydney, Australia

Email: [thepiccolo@bigpond.com](mailto:thepiccolo@bigpond.com)

[www.thepiccolo.com.au](http://www.thepiccolo.com.au)