

Tips for choosing the right shade

In our Ideal range, we have 3 shades to choose from A1, A2, and BL1.

For Elite+ you can choose from 5 different shades: A1, A2, A3.5, BL1 and BL4

When you see the abbreviation “BL” it means the shade in question is a bleached-look shade.

BL1. This is the brightest, most dazzling super-white shade available. It does give the appearance of being artificially bright- so it will look like you are wearing permanent or clip-on veneers.

BL4. This is still a bleached (artificial) shade, brighter than the A shades but not as bright as BL1.

A1. This is the most popular shade choice by far. A1 is the brightest that teeth can look naturally. It is a bright look. A1 gives the appearance of somebody who has had a professional tooth whitening procedure.

A2. This is a natural, light ivory shade. It is quite a lot less bright than A1 and its more natural looking. About 70% of the population naturally have teeth which are A3, so A2 tends to suit people wanting to brighten by only 1 degree of shade.

A3.5. This is a darker ivory shade and more closely matches the natural shade of people with yellower teeth. It may suit people looking to match their existing teeth who want veneers for reasons other than getting a brighter smile (eg to cover gaps or missing teeth).

Because the natural shade of most people’s existing teeth is A3, if you want something brighter than this, choose between A1, A2 or a bleached (BL) finish.

As a general rule Personal Stylists tend to recommend that people with black or brown or dark-white skin tones, should choose the natural (A) shades rather than the bleached (BL) shades; this is because the contrast between skin tone and teeth, makes their teeth look brighter anyway; so, if you have a darker tone of skin but still want a glow-bright finish, consider the A1 shade.

A1, or BL4 in our Elite+ range, are good choices for people looking for a really bright smile who have average Caucasian (white) skin complexion.

On the other hand, people with very pale white skin and who want an ultra-bright smile, may wish to consider a BL shade.

An “Old School” rule of thumb is to compare the shade choice with the whites of your eyes. If you choose a shade that is brighter than the whites of your eyes, it is sometimes said that

this makes your teeth look somewhat unnaturally white, which is fine if that is the finish you want, and these days whiter smiles are in vogue!

For people with more conservative tastes who still want to have a whiter smile, perhaps, avoid the BL shades and possibly look to brighten by 1 or 2 degrees of shade, so somebody whose natural teeth are A3 might choose an A2 or A1 shade.

Another factor you might wish to consider is whether you will be wearing veneers for both your upper and lower teeth. If you are getting veneers for just your upper or just your lower teeth, you might want to choose a shade which does not contrast too greatly with your natural teeth. That said, for most people, even when smiling, their lower teeth are usually much less visible than their upper teeth (this is called "teeth reveal"). So lots of people, who are only buying veneers for their upper teeth, are happy to choose a shade which is brighter than their lower teeth. Perhaps look in the mirror to decide for yourself how visible, if at all, your lower teeth are.

Choosing the right shade is a subjective and personal process, so it's very much your choice at the end of the day.

Don't forget to check out our Smile Gallery at: <https://www.fabsmileveneers.co.uk/smile-gallery/> where you can see examples of people wearing veneers made in our different shades.

And for the different shades side-by-side, visit Our Veneers page at: <https://www.fabsmileveneers.co.uk/our-veneers/>