

## **Expander**

An expander is an orthodontic appliance used to widen the upper jaw to correct crossbites and eliminate crowding.

## WHAT TO EXPECT

- You may experience pressure by your front teeth, nose, cheeks and forehead
- Your tongue may get irritated from coming in contact with the appliance.
- It will take several days to get used to.
- Speech will be affected at first, but will return to normal.
- Excess salivation is common for the first few days.
- May result in a gap between the 2 front teeth that usually self-corrects with time.
- The average amount of time to have an expander is 6-9 months.

## **HOW TO TURN**

- Insert the key into the hole or slot in the middle of the appliance.
- Gently push the key from the front of the mouth towards the back of the mouth. As long as you are pushing backwards, the next keyhole will appear.
- After turning, remove the key TOWARDS the back of the mouth. BE CAREFUL NOT TO UNTURN THE SCREW.

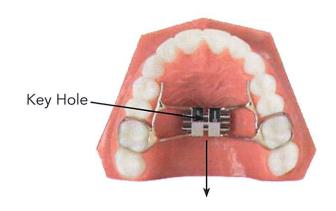
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SHELDON ROCK VALLEY JACKSON

NAME:	
START DATE:	
□ UPPER EXPANDER: TURN TIME(S) TOTAL NUMBER OF TURNS	
□ LOWER EXPANDER TURN TIME(S) TOTAL NUMBER OF TURNS	

AFTER COMPLETING ABOVE TURN SEQUENCE, DISCONTINUE TURNS UNTIL NEXT APPOINTMENT.



Use boxes below to help keep track of expander turns. After each day/turn mark the appropriate box.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30