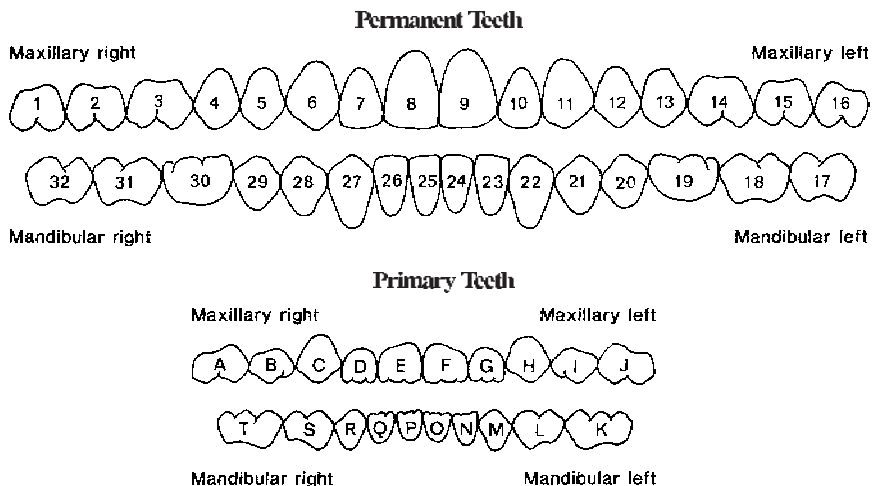


Tooth Numbering Systems

The three tooth designation systems in general use are the Universal, adopted by the American Dental Association; the F.D.I. (or International), adopted by the Fédération Dentaire Internationale; and the Palmer.

Universal or ADA System



Permanent Teeth

Start with the right maxillary third molar (number 1) and follow around the arch to the left maxillary third molar (16); descend to the left mandibular third molar (17); and follow around to the right mandibular third molar (32).

Primary or Deciduous Teeth

Use continuous upper case letters A through T in the same sequence as for permanent teeth: right maxillary second molar (A) around to the left maxillary second molar (J); descend to the left mandibular second molar (K); and around to the right mandibular second molar (T).

International or F.D.I. System

Permanent Teeth															
Q-1 Maxillary right							Q-2 Maxillary left								
18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
48	47	46	45	44	43	42	41	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38
Mandibular right Q-4							Mandibular left Q-3								
Primary Teeth															
Q-5 Maxillary right					Q-6 Maxillary left										
55	54	53	52	51	61	62	63	64	65						
85	84	83	82	81	71	72	73	74	75						
Mandibular right Q-8					Mandibular left Q-7										

Permanent Teeth

Each tooth is numbered by the quadrant (1 to 4) and by the tooth within the quadrant (1 to 8).

Quadrant Numbers

- 1 = Maxillary right
- 2 = Maxillary left
- 3 = Mandibular left
- 4 = Mandibular right

Tooth Numbers Within Each Quadrant.

Start with number 1 at the midline (central incisor) to number 8, third molar.

Designation. The digits are pronounced separately. For example, “two-five” (25) is the maxillary left second premolar, and “four-two” (42) is the mandibular right lateral incisor.

Primary or Deciduous Teeth

Each tooth is numbered by quadrant (5 to 8) to continue with the permanent quadrant numbers. The teeth are numbered within each quadrant (1 to 5).

Quadrant Numbers

- 5 = Maxillary right
- 6 = Maxillary left
- 7 = Mandibular left
- 8 = Mandibular right

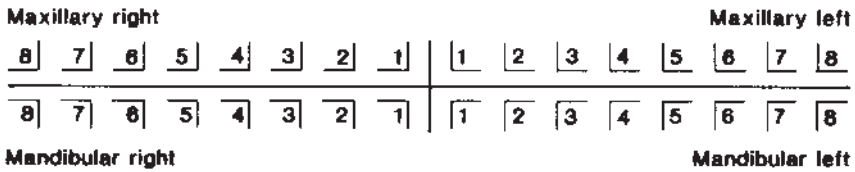
Tooth Numbers Within Each Quadrant.

Number 1 is the central incisor, and number 5 is the second primary molar.

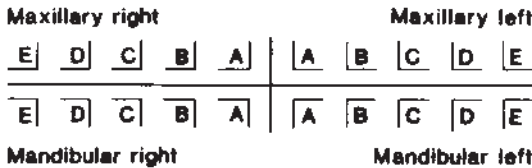
Designation. The digits are pronounced separately. For example, “eight-three” (83) is the mandibular right primary canine, and “six-five” (65) is the maxillary left second primary molar.

Palmer System

Permanent Teeth



Primary Teeth



Permanent Teeth

With number 1 for each central incisor, the teeth in each quadrant are numbered to 8, the third molar. To identify individual teeth, horizontal and vertical lines are drawn to indicate the quadrant. For example, the left maxillary first premolar is 4, the right mandibular first and second molars are 76. An entire quadrant may be represented by the use of the letter Q, for example, the maxillary right quadrant is Q.

Primary or Deciduous Teeth

Upper case letters A through E are used instead of the numbers. Examples are the mandibular left canine C and the maxillary right first primary molar D.

Adapted from Wilkins EM. *Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist*, 9th ed. Baltimore: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, 2005.