ductile substrates such as resins.” Phil Campbell’s Angle Research Award publication\(^1\) reported the “tungsten carbide bur appeared to be the most efficient method of removing highly filled resin, and it produced the least amount of scarring.” The tapered design of this bur makes it easy to manipulate on facial surfaces of enamel while reducing the potential for gingival impingement. Enamoplasty of uneven incisal edges is also done at the same time (Fig. 2).

This bur is ideal to remove composite attachments that are often employed with Invisalign. Gross removal of residual adhesives and cements should be accomplished without disturbing enamel anatomy by over-polishing the surface. Residual resin is often visible on enamel surfaces after the air exhaust from the high-speed contra-angle desiccates the surface of the tooth. The consistent torque and low vibration of an electric dental handpiece (at 35,000-40,000 rpm) can also help to provide a more comfortable and consistent result.

After gross residual composite or cement is removed, the White Finishing Carbide, a long, flame-shaped 30-blade bur, is used to remove the last remnants of adhesives while also finishing the enamel to a smooth surface.\(^2\) The versatile, pointed shape of this bur allows positioning at the gingival margin (Fig. 3).

The 30-blade carbide produces a very smooth surface during the finishing process that is followed with the P0153-031 Polisher, a green friction-grip (FG) silicone point, to refine the enamel (Fig. 4). These polishers can be used in the same high-speed handpiece, but at slow revolutions as the silicone will degrade quickly. A feathering, light touch is required to reduce the buildup of heat and to avoid degradation of the polisher. After a suitable enamel surface is achieved, any additional final finishing can be performed using polishing pastes or slurry of fine pumice, if needed (Fig. 5).

*Dr. Jay Bowman developed the AXIS Orthodontic Adhesive Removal Set; available from Axis Sybron Dental Specialties (800 W. Sandy Lake Road, Suite 100, Coppell, Texas 75019; (888) 452-8879; e-mail: custser@axisdental.com).*  

**References**