

When using translucent frame work materials such as lithium disilicate or translucent zirconium dioxide it is necessary to measure your restoration on a simulation model which offers good approximation of the oral environment. Two aspects are known to matter the most:

- the presence of gingiva influences values a long the a*-axis (red)
- the substrate color can affect the overall luminosity (L*)

Below is a set of simple instructions for making such a eLAB_simulation_model.



Choose the nearest ND shade either numerically from the chart or visually (ie. by the clinician).



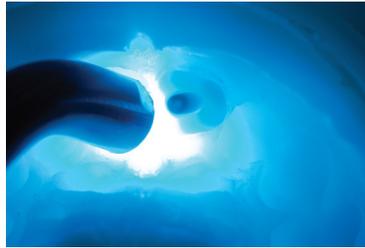
Apply Natural Die Separator to the impression or silicon duplicate.



Apply Natural Die material to the area of the prepared die.



Place plastic pin for retention.



Light cure for 30 seconds.



Remove die and light cure for 30 seconds.



Reposition die and apply pink denture wax to simulate gingiva.



Pour stone of your choice using neutral colors like white, grey or light brown.



Keep model dorsally short and trim base oblique.



Labial view of completed eLAB_simulation_model.



Lingual view of completed eLAB_simulation_model.



The oblique model base allows for ideal and convenient positioning of the eLAB_simulation_model.

Tips and tricks for measuring shade



Before measuring your restoration, it is necessary to ensure full optical contact between the ND-die and the restoration. This is best achieved with a drop of staining fluid.



Place restoration on the die and make sure it has full optical contact with the ND-die.



Ready to measure shade.



Silver/gold colored felt pens (permanent) are readily available and can be used to simulate metal post & cores and other types of atypical/pathological discolorations.



Simply apply the silver/gold ink to the relevant area of the die.



Comparison between before (left) and after (right) the silver ink was applied. Especially atypical/pathological discolorations can take a severe toll on the luminosity (L^*) of a restoration.
