

Its disadvantages are: its color, making it a very conspicuous filling. Its conductivity, making it an unsafe material with which to fill a cavity, having an exposed pulp, which is very sensitive. Its inadaptability, making it (1) Tedious to insert, for, to adapt it perfectly to the walls of a cavity, it must be inserted bit by bit. (2) Expensive, because, for his time, rather than for the material used, does the operator expect remuneration. (3) Leaky, because cavities often present themselves which it is next to impossible to fill perfectly with gold, owing to their inaccessibility, or to the difficulty with which they may be kept dry. Who has not seen large compound approximal surface cavities in bicusps or molars, containing apparently fine gold fillings, but which were leaky at the cervical wall? Such a filling is patched with gold with much more difficulty than the original cavity was filled, and with much more uncertainty of success. Therefore, I would recommend gold for front teeth of good quality, and for back teeth, where the cavities are small and easily reached; for, in such cavities, I consider the advantages to counterbalance the disadvantages of gold as a filling material.

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### Dental Dots Distilled.

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To make nice wax sheets, I have used the following plan for the last fifteen years: After the wax is properly cleaned, get four pieces of glass cut the width you want to have your sheets, and about ten inches long. Any deep vessel, such as a dinner pail, or an old oyster can will serve to melt the wax. Put the pieces of glass in a pail of cold water, when the wax is melted, take two pieces of the glass, one in each hand, and dip alternately, one cooling while you dip the other; about three or four dips is sufficient, then drop into the cold water. Let these two remain till you dip the other two in the same manner. By trimming the edges off the glass with a knife the sheets will drop off themselves. If the wax is kept too hot the sheets will be too thin, if too cold they will be lumpy and thick; near the setting or cooling point is the proper temperature. A tablespoonful of Venice turpentine to three or four pounds of wax will toughen it. This should be