

## An Easy Method of Checking Archform and Canine Width

[URAIWAN VISESSAKSANTIL, DDS, MSD](#)

The following is a simple way to compare a patient's current archform, canine width, and malocclusion to the original condition without opening the model box. The only materials needed are a black marking pencil and a photocopier.

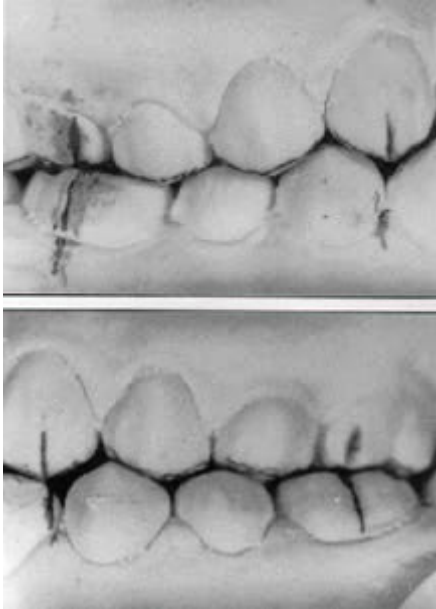
### Step 1

On the maxillary and mandibular study casts, draw continuous lines along the buccal cusps of the posterior teeth and the incisal edges of the anterior teeth, indicating the original archform.



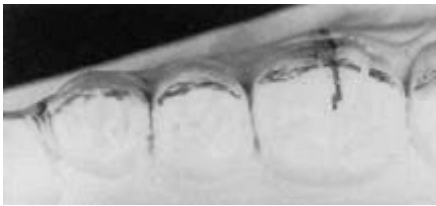
### Step 2

Place the two casts in occlusion. Draw a perpendicular line from the mesiobuccal cusp tip of the maxillary first molar across the buccal surface of the opposing mandibular tooth. Draw another perpendicular from the cusp tip of the maxillary cuspid across the buccal surface of the opposing mandibular tooth. Draw a third line from the maxillary midline across the buccal surface of the opposing mandibular incisor.



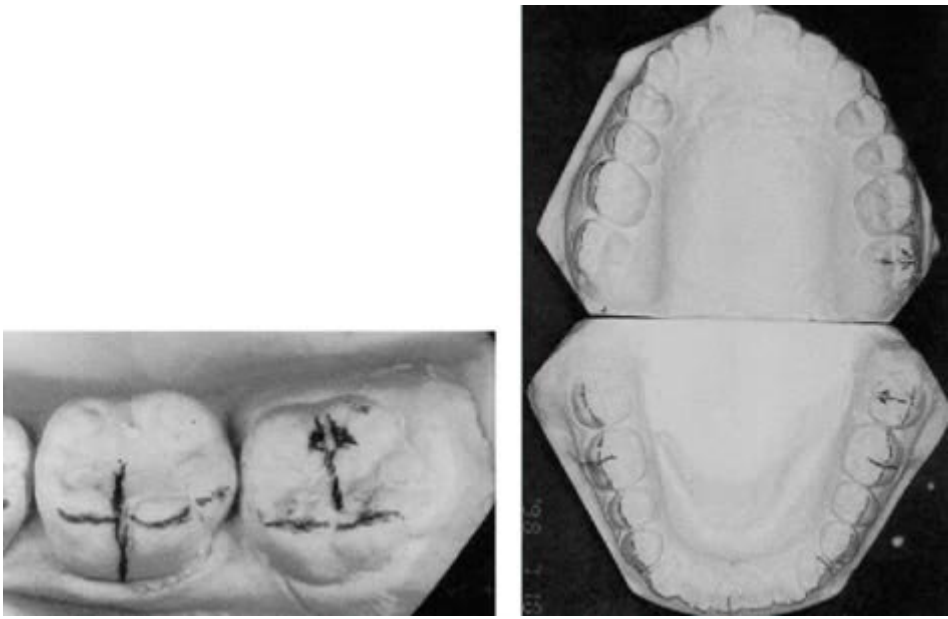
### Step 3

On the mandibular cast, continue the lines drawn in Step 2 across to the occlusal surfaces. These lines will show the original left and right Angle classifications and the midline relationship.



### Step 4

If the patient has a crossbite or scissor bite, draw arrows on the occlusal surfaces of the teeth that need to be moved, indicating the direction and distance of the desired movement. A distal-pointing arrow can be used to show maximum anchorage, a mesial-pointing arrow to show minimum anchorage, and a double-headed arrow to show moderate anchorage.



**Step 5**

Make a photocopy of the casts. The photocopy can be kept in the patient's record for a quick comparison and assessment of treatment progress. □

