

InStyle



asupermodelsmile

At first glance, Ford model Nika, 18, looked like the last person who would need cosmetic work. The 5-foot9-inch beauty from Ukraine always had photographers around her wanting to capture her graceful presence. The only problem was her smile. "Many clients like me very much but didn't like my teeth," she recalls.

Enter New York City cosmetic dentist Mare Lowenberg, whose celebrity clients include Julianna Margulies, Courtney Cox Arquette and Norman Mailer. "Nika had a classic gummy smile – very small teeth with lots of gum," he says.

Other problems: Her teeth were crooked and had yellow stains.

Nika's gum line was surgically raised to make her teeth look longer. Porcelain Veneers rectified the crookedness and whitened her smile. Finally, her bottom teeth were bleached to match the top. Total Bill: \$10,000.

"My mom says, 'you were born to become a superstar,'" says Nika. Now she's got the grin to go for it.

Bridget Hall

Orthodontic veneers changed model Bridge Hall's uneven top row into a dazzling set of pure white teeth. Dr. Rosenthal widened the model's smile by raising the height off the gum on one tooth, then placing veneers on 10 others to even out the whole look. He laser-brightened the bottom to match.

Denzel Washington

A gap in his teeth gave Desnzal Washington a cute grin, but on film, such a space can make you "look like you have a piece of spinach between your teeth," says New York City cosmetic dentist Steven Roth. The best option: porcelain veneers.

When orthodontics is better

Why is Gwen Stefani beaming? It might be because the No Doubt singer, who recently had her braces removed, can now smile beautifully – with her own teeth. Whereas veneers eventually need replacing, "orthodontics maintains your natural teeth and uses the body's own reparative powers," says New York City orthodontist Frank Celenza, but be patient: It may take six months to two years to see results. The cost? \$1,500 to \$6,000