

Palmer notation

Facing the patient: their right is on your left.

Permanent teeth | 1-8 from the midline

Upper right (UR)	Upper left (UL)
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Lower right (LR)	Lower left (LL)
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Primary teeth | A-E from the midline

Upper right (UR)	Upper left (UL)
E D C B A	A B C D E
Lower right (LR)	Lower left (LL)
E D C B A	A B C D E

Tooth-position key

PERMANENT

- 1 Central incisor
- 2 Lateral incisor
- 3 Canine
- 4 First premolar
- 5 Second premolar
- 6 First molar
- 7 Second molar
- 8 Third molar

PRIMARY

- A Central incisor
- B Lateral incisor
- C Canine
- D First molar
- E Second molar

Example: UR6 = upper-right first molar
Letters UR/UL/LR/LL are written shorthand.

Check the tooth, quadrant and dentition before transferring a record.

This chart identifies teeth; use your local charting legend for findings and treatments.

Prefer to dictate your clinical notes? Explore AI Dental Notes.

dentistrydashboard.com/blog/palmer-notation-charting-symbols

Original reference diagram. Notation source: IHACPA archived tooth-notation illustrations.

Dentistry Dashboard | September 2026 | Free to print for your practice or study