# Class III Open Bite
## Suggested Treatment Protocol

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<th>Archwires</th>
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| I. Initial Light-Wire | Damon Optimal-Force Copper Ni-Ti® | • Begin leveling and alignment  
• Initiate arch development without RPEs or W-arches  
• Resolve 90% of rotations  
• Intrude buccal segments  
• Begin A/P and vertical correction | 10 | 10 | Always place stops anterior to crowding.  
Use composite buildups on buccal cusps of L6s & L7s to intrude buccal segments. | Quail 3/16"; 2 oz – Shorty CL III U5 to L3 – Full time | When 90% of rotations are resolved.  
Do not rush this Phase. It must be possible to insert the first edgewise wires with minimal active engagement. If not, let the current wire work longer. Avoid the use of any wire “icing” product that would apply too high a force when the wire warms. |
|  | .014 U/L PRN, .013 U/L if crowding is severe or periodontal support is compromised | .018 U/L  
10 weeks into this stage: Take Panorex & reposition brackets. Follow with .018 Cu Ni-Ti® if brackets are drastically repositioned. | 6 – 8 | 6 – 8 | | | |
| II. High-Tech Edgewise | Damon Optimal-Force Copper Ni-Ti | • Complete leveling and alignment  
• Continue arch development  
• Resolve remaining rotations  
• Begin torque control  
• Consolidate minor spacing | 10 | 10 | Typically use power chain under wire to consolidate minor spaces U/L 3 to 3. If consolidating minor spaces 6 to 6, run wire 7 to 7. If 7s are not erupted, consolidate 5 to 5. Run wire 6 to 6. | Parrot 5/16"; 2 oz – Sling U6 to L3 to U4 – Full time  
Overlay Parrot 5/16"; 2 oz Anterior V – U3 under L1s to U3 – Full time  
After 3 weeks, have patient advance to Dolphin 5/16"; 3 oz Anterior V – U3 under L1s to U3 – Full time – Maintain Sling | When all brackets and teeth are aligned.  
It should be possible to insert the working wires with minimal active engagement. If not, the case is not ready for Phase III. Avoid “icing” products. |
|  | .014 x .025 U/L  
10 weeks into this stage: Take Panorex & reposition brackets. Follow with .018 Cu Ni-Ti® if brackets are drastically repositioned. | .018 x .025 U/L or PRN, Reverse a .017 x .025 Ni Ti® with 20° anterior torque U/L. See Notes. Follow with same wire in .019 x .025 for 6 to 8 weeks if more torque required. | 6 – 8 | 6 – 8 | Monitor lower anterior torque carefully.  
Prevoked wires counter effects of CL III elastics to keep upper incisors from proclining; lowers from retroclining. | | |

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1In patients with very thin attached tissue, severe crowding or periodontal issues, waiting to start elastics until the second appointment may help prevent labial gingival recession.  
2Allowing staff to engage pretorqued wires is not recommended; wire orientation is critical and it is easy to reverse it inadvertently.  
3If consolidating space behind canines, keep power chain one tooth forward of end of wire to help prevent rotation.
### Class III Open Bite (continued)
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<td>III. Major Mechanics</td>
<td>Posted Stainless Steel .019 x .025 U .016 x .025 L</td>
<td>The diligent use of early light elastics may shorten or even eliminate this phase. Once CL III is corrected, proceed to Phase IV. If additional posterior transverse width is desired, undertake this phase with elastics and expand wires slightly in the posterior.</td>
<td>20 – 30</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Once all spaces close, transition from power chain to .008 or .010 wire to lace interiors together; tie back to 6s to avoid reopening space. When engaging elastics, use the wire posts to distribute forces over the archwire.</td>
<td>Zebra 5/16&quot;, 4.5 oz – Sling U6 to L3 to U4 – Full time</td>
<td>When the case is CL I and has been in an overcorrected position for 8 weeks.</td>
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| IV. Finishing | TMA® .019 x .025 U .017 x .025 L | • Take wax bite; coordinate patient-specific arch form  
• Consolidate any remaining minor spacing  
• Express majority of remaining torque  
• Overcorrect vertical | 15 – 20         | 4 – 6 until sectioning wire, then 2 | To engage elastics, crimp surgical posts on TMA wire to distribute forces over the archwire. | Zebra 5/16", 4.5 oz – Posterior V U6 to L4 to U Post – Full time until socked in, then 12 hours daily (after school and nights) | PRN to perfect occlusion, cut lower wire mesial to the teeth that still require better articulation. PRN when sectioning wire, maintain CL III but switch from Posterior V to Ostrich 3/4", 2 oz Spaghetti – U to L 7 to 3 Twisted in between. In the anterior, end on lower Post – Full time |

These wire/elastics sequence recommendations have been shown to be effective when treating with Damon System mechanics. They are not a replacement for professional expertise.