

# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

The logo for Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) is displayed in a stylized, white, blocky font with a thick green outline. The letters 'C', 'S', and 'I' are large and bold, followed by a colon. The entire logo is set against a black background within a blue-bordered frame.

**CSI:**

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

In a trial the Crown must prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the accused was present at the crime scene when the offence was committed

For this reason the collection preservation and analysis of evidence is crucial to procedural law



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

Physical Evidence: defined as an object, impression, or body element that can be used to prove or disprove facts relating to an offence

Physical evidence is more reliable than witness accounts



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# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

Forensic Science is the application of biochemical and other scientific techniques to criminal investigation



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Tools

Such as hammers, knives, screwdrivers, and crowbars have individual characteristics on their surfaces that can be detected by crime labs

eg. It was a Mastercraft Flat Head Screw Driver with a chip in it that was used

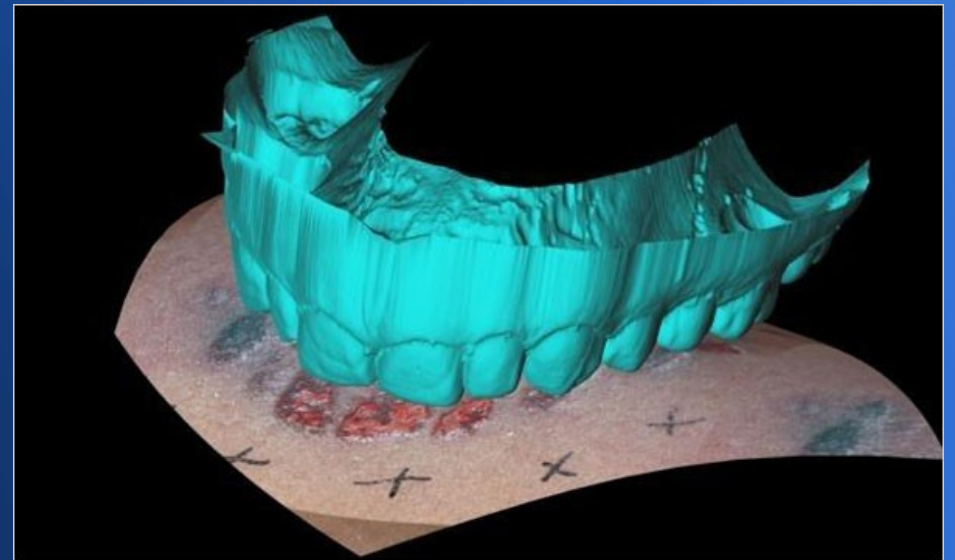


# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Impressions

Patterns on surfaces caused by different objects such as fingers, gloves, tires and tools

Impressions have two characteristics



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

**Class Characteristics** are the general attributes of an object. Classifications etc.

eg. Size 10 Puma Drifts

**Individual Characteristics**

refer to specific and unique features of an object

eg. Size 10 Puma Drifts with abnormal wear on the ball of the left foot



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Fingerprints

Used as no two people have the same fingerprint

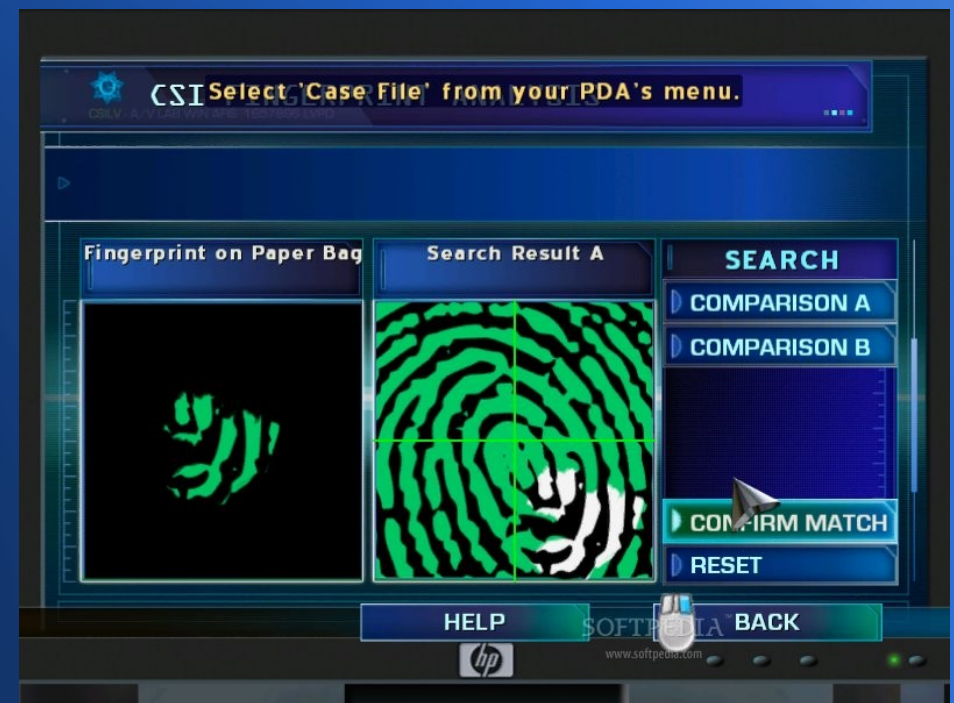
There are two types

**Visible:** can be seen by the naked eye

**Latent prints** are made by perspiration and oils on the persons skin

Latent prints need to be developed

Click on For Video

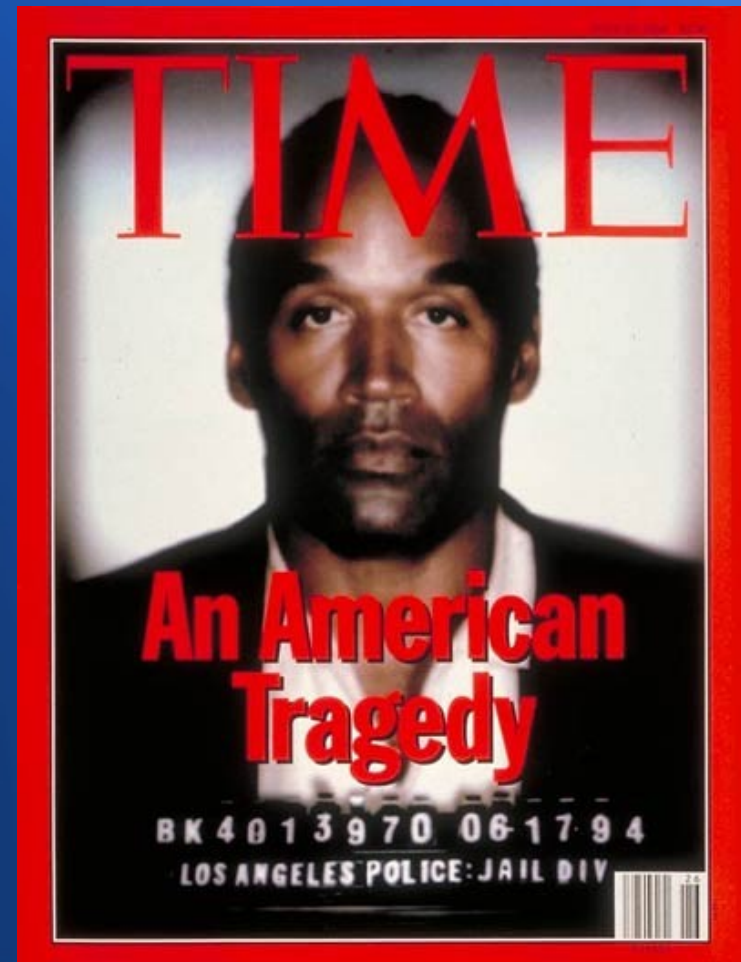




# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Gloves

Gloves can also be used to identify specific individuals  
s need to be developed



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Shoe Prints and Tire Tracks

If the police find four foot prints they can determine height, weight, etc

Tire Tracks can tell them make and model as well as direction



See Cousin Vinny 1:37

# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Body Elements and DNA

The Police can use, blood, semen, mucus, hair, skin and sputum as evidence



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Body Elements and DNA

### DNA testing

Is unique to every person except identical twins

Can be taken from a few drops of blood, or a few hairs, or sweat

See Clip



# Identifying and Collecting Physical Evidence

## Procedures of Labeling Evidence

When evidence is logged there is a CHAIN OF CUSTODY that documents

Who had contact with the evidence?

The dates and times the evidence was handled

The circumstances under which the evidence was handled

What changes if any were made to the evidence

