

Circumstantial Evidence Footprints



Our evidence:

- 1) Two different shoe prints found in the dirt close to where the stolen phone was found.



- 2) Three sets of shoes labelled with suspects' names

The Crime Scene Unit gathers evidence from where the incident occurred. The first thing they do is carefully photograph the scene from different angles. Sometimes, depending on the shoe print, police officers will take an impression.

Shoe prints are **circumstantial evidence**. Circumstantial evidence provides an indirect link to a crime and is usually an object. This means that the object MAY be linked to the crime, or it could be NOTHING to do with it. Just because a shoe print is found at a crime scene, it doesn't necessarily mean that it belongs to a criminal.

Crime Scene Unit members look for unique features in the shoe print, such as worn patches, trapped stones, holes etc. to help them make a match. These are called **accidental characteristics**. Things like brand, shoe size, width and length of the shoe are called **class characteristics**. These are features that all shoes would have - they are not unique - for example, all Puma shoes will have the Puma brand logo.

Observe the shoe prints left in the dirt at the crime scene. Now compare them to the photos of the suspects' shoes. List the characteristics you have discovered in the table below.

Whose shoe prints were left at the crime scene?

	Class Characteristics	Accidental Characteristics
Brodie Smith		
Marco Albenni		
Mohammad Mughal		





Brodie Smith



Mohammad Mughal



Report 2

Collection of Evidence

- fingerprints on the phone
 - note with phone number tucked into the back of the phone
 - hair trapped in phone casing
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Report 3

Crime Scene Investigation

Two large footprints in the dirt next to the bush where the phone was discovered.

Report 4

Cell Phone History

Evidence shows that picture text messages were sent to a Brodie Smith, a William Morris and a Mohammed Mughal using the WhatsApp function. History shows that no texts had previously been exchanged with these contacts.