

Section J - Subsection 2

Liquid Adhesive Print Lifters

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Name of Procedures:

Liquid Adhesive Print Lifters

Suggested Uses:

Liquid Adhesive Print Lifters have been found to be useful in the recording of latent impressions on rough, grainy or difficult surfaces. This technique may be used on rough metals, plastics, Styrofoam and grainy surfaces such as car interiors. This method will allow recording of the impressions without destroying or damaging the impression which may occur with standard lifting tapes.

Equipment Needed to Perform Procedures:

- A - One (1) container of Pentel Roll'n Glue
- B - Black powder (other powders may substituted if necessary)
- C - One (1) small paint brush
- D - One (1) portable heated-air blower
- E - Lifting tape
- F - Small Spoon or forceps
- G - Safety goggles
- H - Camera (35mm, 2 1/4, MP-4, CU5)
- I - Rubber gloves

Chemicals Needed For Preparation of Chemical Solution(s):

Not Applicable

Formula/Directions for Preparation of Chemical Solution(s):

Not Applicable

Processing Procedures for Application to Item(s) of Evidence:

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Note: The item of evidence should be processed with superglue prior to using this technique as other chemical processing techniques can be used in conjunction with this method.

1. The item is processed with regular black powder to develop the latent impressions (See Powder Processing Procedures).
2. The glue is poured directly over the latent impression with a sufficient amount to completely cover the entire area of the impression. A small soft paint brush may be used to lightly spread the glue evenly over the item.
3. Once the glue is applied, a portable heated-air blower may be used to completely dry the glue (the blower should be set on a low setting). The blower should be placed approximately four to ten inches from the area being processed and applied using circular or side-to-side motions for approximately five to ten seconds. The heating and cooling process may need to be repeated until the item is completely dry. The item should be allowed to cool after the heated-air blower is used prior to continuing.

In the absence of a heated-air blower, allow the item to completely cool for approximately five to ten minutes before continuing.

Steps to Preserve Developed Impressions:

There are two (2) methods of preserving the developed impressions depending on the thickness of the glue.

1. With a thick deposit of glue, the glue may be peeled directly from the surface and placed on a lift card or other backing material. Then secure the glue deposit to the lift card by placing lifting tape over the impression.
2. Thin-layered deposits of glue often may not be peeled without destroying the impression. Lifting tape should be placed directly over the area and lifted directly from the surface. This technique may require using a small spoon or the end of forceps to gently lift the edge of the glue prior to lifting. The developed impression can then be easily transferred to a lift card or other backing material.

The developed impressions may be examined and utilized in comparisons once they have been secured to the lift card or backing material. The item should be initially photographed in case the developed impression becomes damaged (See Camera / Photography Techniques).

Safety Concerns:

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Presently there are no major safety concerns associated with the use of this technique. However, the glue can be harmful if it comes into contact with the skin or eyes. Gloves and eye protection should be utilized at all times.

Storage and Location of Chemicals and Solutions:

The glue may be stored in almost any location; however, the top should be tightly secured when not in use.

Shelf Life:

Indefinite

Other Information:

Not Applicable