

Trevor Jacobson  
*Playing Hide and Seek with Blood*

The following research was conducted in order to determine which blood enhancement reagent is most effective in determining the presence of blood on different surfaces (linoleum, porcelain tile, slate tile, and wooden floorboard). The prediction is as follows; Amido Black would have the highest success rate out of the five used chemicals (Amido Black, Acid Fushsin (Hungarian Red), Leucocrystal Violet, Coomassie Brilliant Blue, and Acid Yellow 7) because previous results should collaborate with future testing. Prior research has demonstrated that throughout history the concept of detecting blood has fascinated humans world-wide and to this day drives many scientists to uncovering more.

Latent print examination was completed by means of standard crime scene investigation techniques. This experiment was performed by applying an equal amount of pressure on a blood covered shoe onto four different surfaces; three times each to allow for multiple trials. There was a lapse in time of seventy two hours before each of the five chemicals were applied to the prints. As a result, results indicate the hypothesis was partially correct; Amido Black did display the most detail on laminate tiles and Acid Fushsin did display the most detail on the wooden floor boards. However, it was incorrect in its prediction of the other two surfaces. Instead, Amido Black displayed the most detail on the porcelain tiles and Leucocrystal Violet on the slate tiles.