







Why do prints need to be communicated?

- It is one piece of sign that a person has to leave behind
- All teams searching out from the LKP is slow. It is a waste of skills and resources
- Allows teams to operate at a distance using sign cutting techniques and allows management to apply search strategy



- It is not known who will find the sign
- It forms a critical element of the lost party's profile
- It allows tracks to be identified and tracked through contamination



Some ways of communicating prints:

- plaster cast
- draw to scale
- acetate
- clock Method
- photos.

The most common in SAR are the acetate and clock methods.





Using a light source to assist tracking – Day

- Light intensity
- Light angle
- Light can be manipulated during the day using a mirror or shade.

Manipulating light - day time

Using shade and mirror

Manipulating light - day time

Using shade and mirror

Manipulating light - day time

Using shade and torch



Date: Time:

Location: GR: Description





Print Communication

Resources needed :

A4 Acetate

Permanent Marker: medium /fine point

Tracking sticks

Tracking kit: torch, shade maker, mirror, tape

If wet waterproof canopy eg umbrella, coat, plastic sheet

Teams of 2

Only draw what you SEE

Sole length/width

Instep length

Foot length

Heel length/width

Drawing a print -hold acetate on a diagonal over 2 sticks to keep off print

Grids are often used

Photo of print with scale

All methods have the same principle: The drawn print is the mirror image of the boot sole when you look at it.



Footprint communication

Four pieces of information are communicated for each shape found:

- 1. L (left) or R (right).
- 2. S (sole) or H (heel).
- 3. A number from 1 to 12 indicating the clock position for the shape.

Shape description, e.g. a star. Eg. LH 6 star – left heel contains a star shape at the rear.





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