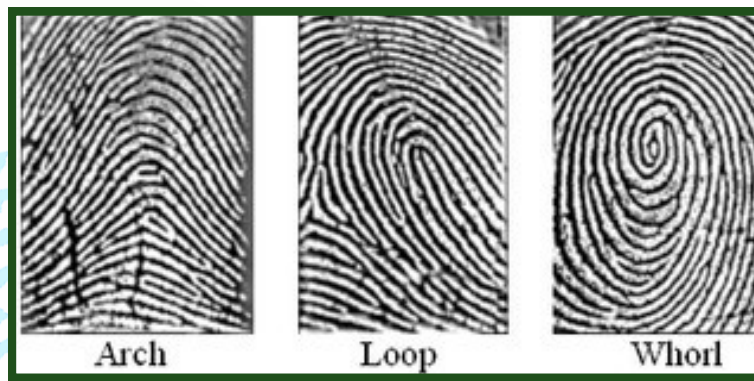


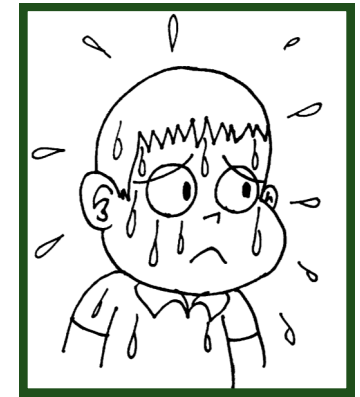


A fingerprint is a mark or impression left on or in a material by the friction ridges on the skin. Friction ridges are also present on the palms and feet.



There are three main shapes formed by friction ridges. These are arches, loops, or whorls.

One of these three patterns will be present on each finger.



The mark which forms a fingerprint is left in sweat.

There are hundreds of tiny pores running the length of each ridge, these pores release sweat onto surfaces and leave a replica of the ridge pattern of the finger.

# FINGERPRINTING & FORENSICS

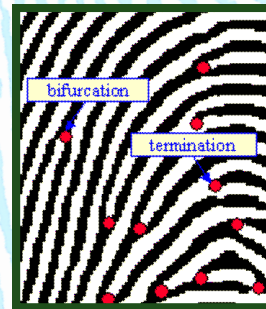


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A.F.I.S. is the Automated Fingerprint Identification System.

Fingerprints are entered into the system. The system searches archived fingerprints and tries to generate a match. The system analyses prints for ridge variations. These variations are marked and checked by fingerprint examiners.



When examining a fingerprint, the examiner will look for changes in the ridges known as ridge variations or minutiae.

They will try to find as many variations as possible.

These variations allow the examiner to determine the individuality of a print and determine the person to whom it belongs.



A fingerprint comes in two forms at a crime scene:

A latent print—This is a print which must be treated with a powder to become visible.

A plastic or patent print—This is a print which is left in something such as paint or blood.