**Steps in Processing a Crime scene**

## Interview

* All crime scene investigations begin with the interview. The interview process is used to determine what crime actually took [place](http://www.ehow.com/how-does_4911520_steps-processing-crime-scene.html), what happened during the criminal act and how it was committed. Crime scene investigators and technicians interview the first officer who arrived on the scene, then branch out to any or actual victims or witnesses of the crime. The information is then processed and later analyzed during the investigation. The information collected during the interview is not always factual. Much of it is dependent on first impressions, witness testimonials and memories. Sometimes, this information may not always correlate with evidence that is collected at the scene. This is especially true if witnesses may or may not have been involved in or related to those involved in the crime. But this information is collected nonetheless because it becomes the foundation on which investigators build their investigation.

## Examine

* The [next](http://www.ehow.com/how-does_4911520_steps-processing-crime-scene.html) phase in processing a crime scene is the collection of forensic evidence and facts. Crime scene technicians examine the crime scene for any evidence, such as items that might aid in the investigation (this can include hair and blood samples, fingerprints, gunpowder residue, footprints, bullet casings). Crime scene technicians also examine and identify points of entry and exits, especially in cases of burglary and breaking and entering property, and any general layout of the entire crime scene that might provide additional information. Once all of this information is collected, it is then analyzed by a crime lab that will provide additional information from the evidence. The evidence is also tagged and identified later for court trial use.
* [Sponsored Links](http://www.google.com/url?ct=abg&q=https://www.google.com/adsense/support/bin/request.py%3Fcontact%3Dabg_afc%26url%3Dhttp://www.ehow.com/how-does_4911520_steps-processing-crime-scene.html%26gl%3DIN%26hl%3Den%26client%3Dca-ehow_300x250%26hideleadgen%3D1%26ai0%3DCh17JpYB5UK3ZMKjAigeg1IGwCbelp7EC78CT5FO_gKL6HRABIKmJrQZQ89DYlQVg5cLkg6QOyAEBqQKLHxpHN0pUPqgDAaoEgQFP0J7g3ZZZVBIdYvXOu4QREZiT4YydYt9swf1C5WRYhTOzbNPRiVoaZrSfyQz0bZThtPwgHTV59jD-Jse4r-zFnF_MXssC8QhjxYdLvDJN5veA0Ji7JL-aQuw42OZih4zjetsdgXzFphsPTKU3Ljb3lRZWJ76iE8_cNlKWrE685OA&usg=AFQjCNGArBhr_96fLjd-6Mu5k2O1eE_pBg)
  + [2 Minute Fashion Project](http://googleads.g.doubleclick.net/aclk?sa=L&ai=Ch17JpYB5UK3ZMKjAigeg1IGwCbelp7EC78CT5FO_gKL6HRABIKmJrQZQ89DYlQVg5cLkg6QOyAEBqQKLHxpHN0pUPqgDAaoEgQFP0J7g3ZZZVBIdYvXOu4QREZiT4YydYt9swf1C5WRYhTOzbNPRiVoaZrSfyQz0bZThtPwgHTV59jD-Jse4r-zFnF_MXssC8QhjxYdLvDJN5veA0Ji7JL-aQuw42OZih4zjetsdgXzFphsPTKU3Ljb3lRZWJ76iE8_cNlKWrE685OA&num=1&sig=AOD64_0bPW99Lb4VCe2KX_yKLudF16wQ6g&client=ca-ehow_300x250&adurl=http://www.strut120.com)

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## Photograph

* Crime scene investigators and technicians will routinely photograph crime scenes. This allows investigators as well as prosecutors to use this evidence to build an investigation or case against probable suspects. A variety of items will be photographed for evidence. For instance, a certain location where fingerprints are taken will be photographed to show where the evidence was lifted. In homicide investigations, the victims are routinely photographed in the position and location where they were murdered. This allows investigators and crime scene technicians to compare and contrast other analyzed evidence, such as blood stippling, with the photographic evidence. Photographing evidence also performs another important function: It is actual recorded evidence that, unlike blood or witness testimonies, won't degrade or diminish over time.

## Sketch

* Sketches are another important phase in processing a crime scene. Crime scene sketch artists will often sketch a layout of the crime scene, marking important points of entry or exit, locations in which the crime was actually committed or the deceased victim was found, or where evidentiary items--such as a knife or hair and blood samples--were discovered and collected. Like photographic evidence, crime scene sketches offer investigators a chance to go over points of interest in the actual crime scene without being present at the scene. The sketches don't have to be completed at the scene; certain aspects can be filled in later. But specific points that need to be identified, such as locations in which fingerprints were lifted, are sketched and completed from the actual scene while it is blocked off for investigation.

## Process

* The final phase of processing a crime scene is process. This is when all evidence--testimonial or forensic--is further analyzed by a crime lab. Crime lab technicians will then determine such things as the probability of when the crime was committed, how the crime was committed and the probability of who committed the crime (for instance, determining the gender, height and weight of the probable suspect). Investigators then use this evidence to further their investigation, eliminating suspects and corroborating eyewitness testimony and alibis.