

	IMP-PM 12.3 Amido Black	
	<i>Document #: 7322</i>	<i>Page 1 of 2</i>
	<i>Revision #: 1</i>	<i>Issued Date: 04/09/2018</i>
	<i>Document Manager: Cheryl Lozen</i>	<i>Approved By: Jeffrey Nye</i>

12.3 Amido Black

12.3.1 Introduction

Bloody footwear and tire tread impressions can be enhanced for the purpose of aiding forensic examinations. This procedure requires the use of a positive blood control and negative control prior to application. Enhanced impressions and/or substrates may experience additional color changes over time. It is recommended that the impression be photographed both before and immediately after processing.

12.3.2 Formula

500 ml Distilled Water

20 grams 5-Sulfosalicylic Acid

3 grams Naphthol Blue Black (Amido Black)

3 grams Sodium Carbonate

50 ml Formic Acid

50 ml Glacial Acetic Acid

12.5 ml Kodak Photo Flo 600 Solution

12.3.3 Mixing

In a 2 liter beaker on a magnetic stirring device combine the ingredients in the order that they are listed. Dilute the mixture to 1 liter using distilled water. Stir until the Amido Black is dissolved. While this mixture can be used immediately, the best results will be obtained if it is allowed to stand for several days prior to use. The solution will be tested on a positive control blood stain prior to use.

12.3.4 Application

The Amido Black solution may be applied by dipping the specimen(s) to be enhanced in a container filled with the solution, or by covering the stained area with a paper towel(s) and using a squirt bottle filled with the solution to saturate the stained area. Completely cover the target area and allow to develop for a minimum of thirty (30) seconds. Three (3) to five (5) minutes are preferred for maximum enhancement. The specimen(s) should be rinsed with tap water and allowed to air dry.

	IMP-PM 12.3 Amido Black	
	<i>Document #: 7322</i>	<i>Page 2 of 2</i>
	<i>Revision #: 1</i>	<i>Issued Date: 04/09/2018</i>
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Note: Prior to application, a small area of the background of the object or surface being enhanced should be stained with the solution. If the background retains a significant amount of the stain, the Amido Black solution may not be appropriate for enhancement of this item.

12.3.5 Reaction

Successful staining of the impression will result in a blue-black colored impression.

12.3.6 Storage

The Amido Black solution can be stored in dark bottles indefinitely.

Reference

SWGTHREAD Guide for the Chemical Enhancement of Bloody Footwear and Tire Impression Evidence, 2008