

References

The following books are the most useful references for forensics that I have found.

Saferstein, Richard, **Criminalistics**, 7th Ed., Prentice Hall, 2001

My favorite book on forensics. If you only buy one book, this is the book to buy. I think it gets better with each edition. Gives a general overview with lots of case examples. This is a book you can read cover-to-cover.

Meloan, Clifton, Richard James, and Richard Saferstein, **Lab Manual for Criminalistics**, 6th Ed., Prentice Hall, 1998

Lab techniques for forensics. Not totally self explanatory. It is helpful to have some previous laboratory experience.

Fisher, Barry A. J., **Techniques of Crime Scene Investigation**, 6th Ed., CRC Press, 2000

This is the book often preferred for introductory courses in forensic programs. As the title indicates, this book focuses on the techniques and procedures of crime scene investigation. This book should be a part of your library on forensics.

White, Peter, Editor, **Crime Scene to Court, The Essentials of Forensic Science**, The Royal Society of Chemistry, 1998.

This book explains the methods and techniques used in crime scene investigations and forensic laboratories in the United Kingdom.

There is an excellent series of five short articles that appeared in **Chemistry in Britain**, May 1993, which explain the basics of toxicology, material evidence, microscopic examination, drugs, and DNA analysis.

Baden, Michael, M.D., and Marion Roach, **Dead Reckoning: The New Science of Catching Killers**, Simon & Schuster, 2001.

Dr. Baden is an internationally known forensic pathologist. This book is a “best seller” overview of autopsies, murder scenes, blood-splatter analysis, the life cycles insects in human remains, DNA fingerprinting and the methods for identifying unknown victims by their skulls, teeth and bones. The book is interesting to read and quite informative.

Rainis, Kenneth G., **Crime-Solving Science Projects, Forensic Science Experiments**, Enslow Publishers, Inc., 2000.

Forensic science projects suitable for classroom activities and for students for science fairs. Includes projects on physical evidence, fingerprints, document examination, blood evidence, and hair and fiber examination.

Software:

FACES™ (Currently in Version 4.0), InterQuest Inc.

This software allows you to construct the face of a suspect from a friendly user interface. You can choose to work in English, French, or Spanish. With the popularity of forensics, the price of this program doubled in recent years. Shop all the forensics and science education vendors you can find to locate the best price.

A Source for Forensic Supplies:

There are a number of sources for forensic supplies. The names and addresses can be located on the Internet. The company I have been using is:

Criminal Research Products, Inc.

Now owned by Tri-Tech Inc.

4019 Executive Park Blvd., SE

Southport, NC 28461

Telephone: 800-438-7884

Web site: www.tritechusa.com OR www.criminalresearchproducts.com

In addition, most of the science supply companies that sell educational materials are now selling various forensic science kits. Most of these supplies and kits tend to be expensive. My suggestion is to buy some forensics books, learn about techniques, study the supply catalogs, and assemble your own home-made kits using locally available materials.