

## Fingerprinting Yourself

After determining and reading about the different types of fingerprint patterns, your first job is to fingerprint yourself using an ink pad or markers. You will print each finger on both hands and analyze the patterns you see.

To fingerprint yourself:

1. Place the side of your finger on the ink pad and roll it from one side to the other without dragging your finger in the ink. If you are using washable markers instead, color lightly your fingertip from side to side. Make sure that the ink is only on the ridges of the print and not completely covering your finger!
2. After applying the ink, place one side of your finger in the proper box and then SOFTLY roll your finger from side to side leaving a clean and crisp print.
3. After you have completed this with all fingers and have washed your hands, take a look at each print and identify the patterns that you see there.
4. Compare your fingerprints to those other students around you.

Right Hand

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little

Left Hand

Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little

**Questions:**

1. What was the pattern you found most in your prints?
2. Were all your prints from each finger identical?
3. Are your fingerprints like anyone else's around you? Do you share the same patterns?
4. What was the most common pattern among other students in your class?
5. Using your own fingerprints, calculate your Henry Classification number and show the chart below.

	Right Hand					Left Hand				
	Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little	Thumb	Index	Middle	Ring	Little
Digit #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Point Value	16		8		4		2		1	
Sum of X (even)										
Sum of Y (odd)										
X/Y										

6. Compare your Henry Classifications number to those within the class - explain similarities and differences.

## Lifting Fingerprints

After you have identified your own prints, you will now practice lifting prints from objects. This is a difficult thing to do and may take multiple tries to get a good print. Make sure that you limit how much you hold the object you are trying to print so that you don't get smears or smudging. The simplest and most frequently used method of lifting fingerprints is to dust it with black powder.

To lift fingerprints:

1. Get a clean beaker and only handle it by the bottom and the rim of the beaker - DO NOT touch the sides until you are ready!
2. Have you and your partner press your fingers around the outside of the beaker firmly without dragging your fingers across the surface.
3. Dip the small brush into the black powder and LIGHTLY AND GENTLY dust the first print that you see.
4. Place a piece of clear tape over the fingerprint and rub the back of the tape. Carefully lift the tape off the beaker and place the tape in the designated space below.
5. Once the tape is placed below - identify it as your print or your partner's print - write your identification next to the print below.
6. Each of you should lift at least 4 separate prints and identify them.
7. Clean the beaker, have another person from another group touch the glass and leave their prints behind without you watching. Now lift the prints they made on the beaker (this will be more difficult because you don't know where the prints are located).
8. After you have finished, wash the beaker (inside and outside) with soap and water and place it back where you found it making sure not to touch the sides of the beaker!

Place your tape lifts here:



Questions:

1. What difficulties did you have in trying to lift prints?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Were you able to easily identify each print as yours or you partners?  
Why or why not?