Trace Evidence: Glass & Paint

Glass

an inorganic compound made of quartz sand and combined with other oxides

Tempering

process used to increase the strength of glass which entails compressing the surface of the glass and expanding the inside layers of the glass

Soda-lime Glass

most basic form of glass; commonly found in jars, windows and lamps

Borosilicate

contains compounds to increase the strength of the glass and insure stability in high temperatures

Density

used for comparison analysis; calculated by dividing mass by volume

Amorphous Solid

atoms and molecules within glass which are organized in a random structure similar to the molecular structure of a liquid

Radial Cracks

begin at the site of impact and radiate outward based on the amount of force used to break the glass

Concentric Fractures

form perpendicular to radical fractures on the side of the force as the tension and compression ripples throughout the glass

Refractive Index

measurement which determines how light will refract within an object compared to how light travels in a vacuum

Anisotropic

more than one refractive index

Isotropic

one refractive index as opposed to anisotropic

Angle of Refraction

angle in which the light ray travels away from the boundary of an object

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Snell's Law

established relationship between the path a ray of light takes in one medium and the path of which the same light ray takes in a new medium

Paint Extenders

solid components of paints which can serve a variety of purposes such as making the application easier

Hot Stage Method

precise method used for determining the exact refractive index of glass fragments

Phase Contrast

clear particles will not be visible using traditional bright field light