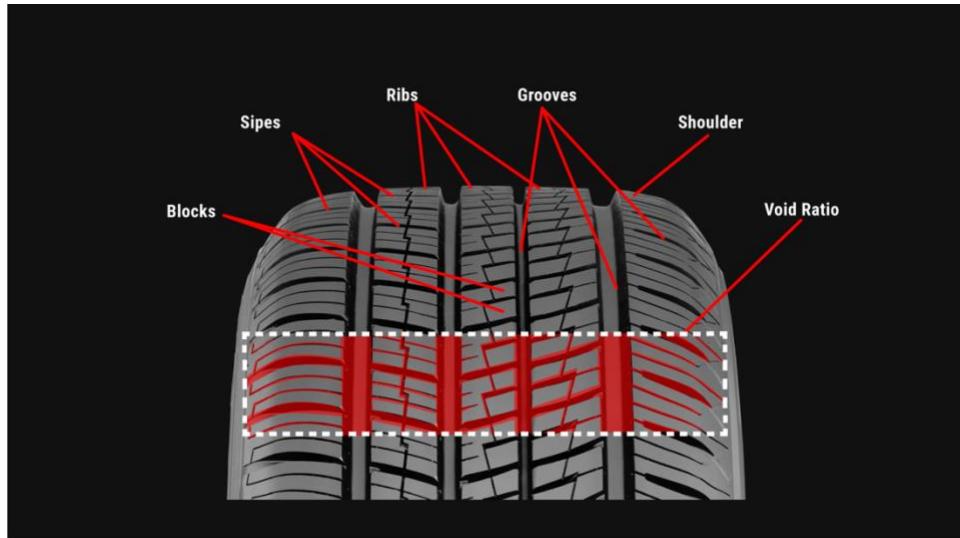


Introduction to Forensic Science- VR Laboratory

Tire tracks

Evidence item #1 is a tire track found at the scene. Tires are available in many sizes and tread designs. Tire material also ranges from rubber to steel, depending on the use.

Familiarize yourself with the components of tire treads:



<https://www.yokohamatire.com/tires-101/tire-technology-1/tread-design>

When analyzing tire tracks, it is important to remember that the track is the *negative* image of the tire tread. Therefore, the tire track must be compared to suspect tires. Measurements of tire ribs, grooves, etc., can all be used to find if a tire track is a match to a suspected tire. Points of comparison between the track and suspect tire(s) can be used. A match between a tire and track can show that a particular vehicle created the track and was at the scene. This is very helpful when recreating a crime scene.

In addition, plaster casting, 3-d imaging, and other photographic techniques can be helpful in finding points of comparison. Below are pictures of the tire track at the scene and a tire from a suspect vehicle.

- Can you find points of comparison?
- Do you think the tire from the vehicle created the track?
- If the tire is a match to the track what does that mean? What if it is not a match?



Be sure to take careful notes and document each item of evidence as you encounter them.

Additional information on tire track analysis can be found in this YouTube video:

[Tire Tread and Tire Track Evidence](#)



