

# Hair & Fiber Analysis

The purpose of this lab is to have you experience the properties of various hairs as a real criminalist would during a crime scene investigation. Using a microscope and your notes, you are about to set out and:

1. Observe your hair and document its characteristics
2. Create a database of hairs from a variety of animals



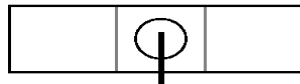
You have a sufficient amount of time to do this lab. Make sure that you are thorough, detailed, and organized. Remember to act appropriately during the lab as part of your grade is lab behavior/participation.

So don't pull your hair out - it's not that bad. Good luck in your efforts.

## Part A: Personal Hair Observation

During this section, you are going to make observations of your own hair. Remember that hair has three different segments depending on where the hair is found in relation to the skin. Those pieces are the root (below the skin), the shaft (above the skin), and the tip (end of the shaft).

1. You will need to pull a hair from your scalp. The hair should have a white bulb at the end. This white bulb is the root. Once you have a hair, you are going to make a wet mount of the hair at the root.
  - a. Take a microscope slide and place the root of the hair on the slide.
  - b. Place one drop of water on the root.
  - c. Place a coverslip over the root and the drop of water.



Root

- d. Place the microscope slide onto the microscope.
- e. Adjust the objective lens so that it is 100x **total** magnification.
- f. Look at the hair under the microscope. Draw what your hair looks like in the space provided.

Scalp Hair Root(100x)

