

Guidelines for Marking and Mapping Specimens

Every lab technician will find their own style for marking tissue specimens. A large lab organization or department may develop protocols to be used. It does not matter which colors are used on which areas, provided orientation is properly mapped.

We recommend use of a path sheet such as the one on the reverse side of this publication. Note the color legend which employs the use of symbols that may be used in the mapping process. Below are steps that may serve as a guide for marking and mapping tissue.

Step 1: On the path sheet, draw the shape of the specimen that is going to be marked with tissue dye.

Step 2: Cut the specimen into sections and show these cuts on the path sheet accordingly.

Step 3: Apply tissue dye to an edge of the specimen. Note this action on the path sheet using the appropriate symbol from the color legend.

Continue: Apply dye to each edge of each tissue section, mapping appropriately on the path sheet as you go.

In the example to the right, you may notice that all superior sides are marked with the same color, all left sides with another color, all anterior sides with yet another color, and so on. This is just one system that may be used.

Finally: When tissue dye has been applied to all sides of each tissue section and appropriately mapped on the path sheet using the color symbols, the specimens are ready for processing.



Patient Name: _____		Color Legend	
Medical Record #: _____		Black --- Violet	
Surgical Pathology #: _____		Blue +++ Lime	
Date: _____		Green XXX	
Surgeon: _____		Orange @ @ @	
Pathologist: _____		Red @ @ @	
Surgical Diagnosis: _____		Yellow o o o	
Specimens: _____			
Description: _____			
Frozen _____			
Fixed _____			

(See Guidelines for Marking & Mapping on back, PDF available at www.bradleyproducts.com)

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Bradley Products, Inc.

Patient Name: _____
Medical Record #: _____
Surgical Pathology #: _____
Date: _____
Surgeon: _____
Pathologist: _____
Surgical Diagnosis: _____



Specimen: _____
 _____ **Frozen** _____ **Fixed** _____

Description: _____

Color Legend		
Black	- - -	Violet _____
Blue	• • •	Lime _____
Green	X X X	_____
Orange	Ø Ø Ø	_____
Red	R R R	_____
Yellow	o o o	_____

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