

MARIJUANA



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WHAT IS MARIJUANA?

Marijuana refers to the dried leaves, flowers, stems, and seeds of the *Cannabis sativa* or *Cannabis indica* plant. The plant contains the mind-altering chemical THC and other similar compounds.

STREET NAMES:

Aunt Mary, BC Bud, Blunts, Boom, Chronic, Dope, Gangster, Ganja, Grass, Hash, Herb, Hydro, Indo, Joint, Kif, Mary Jane, Mota, Pot, Reefer, Sinsemilla, Skunk, Smoke, Weed, and Yerba.

HOW IS IT USED?

Marijuana is usually smoked as a cigarette (called a joint) or in a pipe, bong, or electronic cigarette. It is also mixed with foods or made into a tea.

WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS ON THE BRAIN?

Marijuana is addictive, and 22-30% of those who use cannabis may have a cannabis use disorder. Frequent use has been linked to problems with learning, memory, and attention, as well as an increased risk of depression during adolescence, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors among teens.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse



FACT: Marijuana products with THC can cause changes in mood, thoughts, and perceptions of reality. These products can also cause harm to the brain and other parts of the body.

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse

DRIVING AND MARIJUANA USE

TRUE OR FALSE?

- Cocaine is the drug most often linked to car accidents. **FALSE.** After alcohol, marijuana is the drug most often linked to car crashes, including those involving deaths.
- Marijuana affects skills required for safe driving – reaction time, alertness, concentration, and coordination. **TRUE**

Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse

IT'S LEGAL, RIGHT?

NO. Under federal law, “recreational and medical use” of marijuana is illegal. Marijuana remains classified as a Schedule I Controlled Substance, meaning it has:

- no currently accepted medical use in the U.S..
- a lack of accepted safety for use under medical supervision, and
- a high potential for abuse.



FOR DRUG USE PREVENTION INFORMATION, VISIT DEA'S WEBSITES:

For parents, caregivers, and educators

[GetSmartAboutDrugs.com](https://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com)

For teens

[JustThinkTwice.com](https://www.justthinktwice.com)

For college and university campuses

[CampusDrugPrevention.gov](https://www.campusdrugprevention.gov)