

- Appetite is increased, especially for sweets.
- Some will experience fear, anxiety, panic, paranoia and terror.
- Physical effects include impaired coordination and balance, rapid heart beat, red eyes, dry mouth and throat.
- Usual doses will impair motor skills, especially when combined with alcohol.
- Cannabis use before driving is particularly dangerous and THC has been detected in many bodies of the fatally injured drivers and pedestrians.

Signs of Abuse

- Anxiety and fearfulness
- Panic and panic attacks
- Red eyes
- Extreme appetite, “the munchies”
- Paranoia and confusion
- Poor coordination
- The individual may laugh excessively,
- Hyperventilation is common where the individual will think they are going to die.

If yourself or someone you know is struggling with addiction, please contact your local addiction, mental health or medical facility for further information and help.

Long Term Effects

- Signs of chronic use may include decreased motivation and interest, as well as difficulties with memory and concentration.
- These problems tend to clear when usage is stopped.
- There can be lasting harmful effects on mental function, respiratory damage and heart damage.
- A single marijuana joint yields much more tar than a strong cigarette.
- Studies also suggest that developmental delays may occur in children whose mothers used cannabis during pregnancy.



Marijuana



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What is Cannabis Sativa?

- Cannabis is a plant which grows in warm conditions and has an active chemical THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), which alters the user's mind and mood.
- The leaves or buds of the plant are dried and are usually smoked or ingested.
- The resin of the plant (hash or hashish) is also smoked.
- It is the most widely-used of all drugs that are illegal.
- Cannabis is basically a hallucinogen, it is also a depressant.

Marijuana

- Flowering tops and leaves of the cannabis plant are usually dried and smoked in a pipe or hand rolled like a cigarette. It ranges in color from grey-green to greenish-brown, and resembles oregano. It has a strong odor, which some say is similar to that of a skunk.
- It is known as pot, grass, reefer, weed, ganja or joint.

Hashish

- Dried, sticky resin of the cannabis plant sold in solid pieces ranging in color from brown to black. It is usually smoked in a pipe, and some will bake it into cookies or brownies.
- It is also called hash.

Hash Oil

- Thick, greenish-black, reddish-brown or yellow oil obtained by extracting hashish with solvent. It is commonly smoked by placing it on a very hot surface and inhaling the smoke; "blades". It is also wiped onto cigarettes and smoked.
- Hash oil is much more potent than other forms of cannabis and only a small amount is required to reach an effect.
- It is commonly referred to as oil, or honey oil.

Origin and Medical Uses

- Cannabis grows in almost any climate, but grows best in warm conditions.
- Most of the cannabis product found in Canada were grown in South and Central America, but now much of it is grown locally, some under hydroponic conditions.

- The use of Cannabis has claimed to relieve medical conditions such as nausea and vomiting, wasting syndrome, multiple sclerosis, epilepsy and glaucoma.
- THC chemically synthesized is marketed as Marinol and Cesamet, which are used orally to treat the symptoms of chemotherapy in cancer patients.
- The treatment of AIDS related anorexia associated with weight loss is another approved use of Marinol.

Short-Term Effects

- Effects from smoking are felt within a few minutes and last two to four hours. When ingested effects appear more gradually and last longer.
- The person will feel calm, relaxed talkative and sometimes drowsy.
- Short term memory and concentration are extremely impaired and sensory perception seems enhanced, colors are brighter, sounds are more distinct and the sense of space is distorted.



The picture to the left show marijuana buds, which are typically smoked.