

Commonly Abused Drugs



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Although many drug's have acceptable medical uses, there is often potential for **misuse** or **drug dependence**. Many misused drugs can alter a person's thinking and judgment, leading to health risks, including addiction, drugged driving, and infectious disease. Most drugs could potentially harm an unborn baby during pregnancy.

Below is a list of commonly abused drugs according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA).

- Alcohol
- Central Nervous System Depressants
- Cocaine
- DMT
- Hallucinogens
- Heroin
- Inhalants
- Ketamine

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- Mescaline (Peyote)
- Methamphetamine
- Over-the-Counter Dextromethorphan (DXM)
- PCP
- Prescription Opioids
- Prescription Stimulants
- Salvia
- Steroids (Anabolic)
- Synthetic Cannabinoids



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Marijuana is made from the hemp plant, *Cannabis sativa*. The main psychoactive (mind-altering) chemical in marijuana is delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, or **THC**.



Opioids are pain relievers that can cause euphoria and are often used nonmedically, leading to overdose deaths.



Tobacco is a plant grown for its leaves, which are dried, fermented, and put in products like cigarettes. Tobacco contains **nicotine** which can lead to addiction.



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