

General Information – Cannabis Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is cannabis?

Cannabis is a flowering plant that is used as a drug. The main chemical responsible for the “high” or mind altering effects from cannabis is THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol). Cannabis also contains CBD (cannabidiol), which has no mind altering effects but is thought to have some medicinal properties.

The cannabis plant is used in three main forms:

Marijuana is made from the dried flower buds and leaves of the cannabis plant. Marijuana is often referred to as pot, ganja, weed, bud, or Mary Jane.

Hashish is made from the resin (a secreted gum) of the cannabis plant, which is dried and pressed into small blocks.

Hash Oil is a highly potent form of cannabis that is obtained by extracting THC from marijuana.

2. What are THC and CBD?

THC stands for delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol. THC is responsible for the way your brain and body respond to cannabis. THC is the main chemical responsible for the “high” or mind altering effects from cannabis. While THC has some therapeutic effects, it also has some harmful effects.

The potency (concentration) of THC in cannabis is often presented as a percentage of THC by the weight of a specific part of the plant.

Cannabis that contains very low amounts of THC in its flowers and leaves (less than 0.3%) is classified as hemp.

CBD stands for cannabidiol. Unlike THC, CBD is not psychoactive or have mind altering effects. There is some evidence that CBD may block or lower some of the mind altering effects of THC. This may occur when the amount of CBD in the cannabis is equal to or higher than the amount of THC. Researchers are studying CBD for its potential medicinal uses.

3. How is cannabis consumed?

Cannabis can be consumed in many different ways, including:

- smoking by:
 - joints or spliffs (cannabis wrapped in partially translucent paper)
 - pipes, such as bongos
 - blunts (partially or entirely hollowed out cigar wrappers filled with cannabis)
- drinking or eating through:
 - teas
 - sodas
 - baked goods
- vaping (breathing in cannabis and cannabis concentrate vapours through a vaporizer)
- dabbing (cannabis concentrates are heated on a hot surface and inhaled through the use of a variety of devices)
- lotions, creams, or oils (absorbed on the skin or under the tongue; lotions typically do not have a psychoactive effect)