

SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA



Synthetic marijuana is made of dried herbs and plants that are sprayed with lab-created chemicals that attempt to mimic the effects of marijuana.

IDENTIFICATION

Street Names: K2, Spice, Fake Weed, Blaze, Bombay Blue, Skunk, Dank, Zohai

What's it Look Like? Synthetic Marijuana looks like a bunch of dried herbs and plants and is sold in packets labeled "Incense".

How's it Used? Users typically smoke synthetic marijuana.

What's it Do? When most people smoke synthetic marijuana, they expect to be relaxed and super mellow but it isn't like that. Scientists say that the toxic chemicals cause people to feel anxious, paranoid and panicky.

Warning Signs of Abuse

- Appearing dizzy and having trouble walking
- Increased heart rate
- Signs of paranoia
- Panic attacks
- Vomiting
- Hallucinating



Facts about Synthetic Marijuana

- Most researchers agree that the toxic chemicals in synthetic marijuana could be more dangerous than those in real marijuana.
- The chemicals in synthetic marijuana, also known as "synthetic cannabinoids", are unregulated, which means no one's in charge of making sure the chemicals won't hurt you.
- Synthetic marijuana is illegal in some states and is in the process of being banned in others.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS

Because synthetic marijuana is so new, nobody knows much about the long-term damage that it can do to your brain and body. We do know what fake weed can do just minutes after you smoke it.



SHORT-TERM EFFECTS

- Insomnia
- Hallucinations and delusions
- Paranoia
- Increased heart rate
- Loss of consciousness
- Vomiting
- Lowered blood pressure and body temperature



Refusal Tips for Kids

It's not always easy for a kid to keep their cool in the face of peer pressure. Give them a few suggestions on how to say "NO" like:

- "Are you kidding? My parents will smell that on me and ground me for life!"
- "Nah, I'm really not in the mood to puke everywhere right now."
- "Do you even know what's in there? Then why are you smoking it!?"

By now you know that synthetic marijuana is toxic, and you're never quite sure what's in it. You also know that just because it's legal doesn't mean it's safe.



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JUST THE FACTS