

## NO HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE

E-joints are a new product used to deliver tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the active ingredient in marijuana, much the same way that e-cigarettes deliver nicotine. They are often marketed as a “safer” way to get high, but, like e-cigarettes, e-joints are by no means safer. Since practically all the information you can easily find on e-joints comes from the companies that make them, you can bet we’re only getting one side of the story.

## WHAT ARE E-JOINTS?

E-joints resemble e-cigarettes – tiny and sleek, but loaded with THC compounds or hash oil in place of nicotine. Hash oil – also known as ear wax, wax, shatter, budder, honey oil, or amber – is an ultra-strong cannabis concentrate.



THC and hash oil infused e-joints are new to the U.S. market and have just recently begun to appear in states that have legalized medical and recreational marijuana use. E-joints work like electronic vaporizers – producing a vapor mist infused with THC.

Hash oil has been around since the 1970s, but the drug has recently climbed in popularity. In states where medical or recreational marijuana is legal, it's not uncommon to find dispensaries that have different types of hash oil available for purchase.

## SIDE EFFECTS

Hash oil users may have increased heart rate, fluctuations in blood pressure, dry mouth, and reddening of the eyes. Other similar side effects include paranoia, anxiety, a lack of coordination, problems with short-term memory, and distortions in the perception of time.

When people use a lot of hash oil, they may experience continuous hallucinations, psychotic episodes, severe paranoia, heightened aggression, and heart palpitations.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to [www.intheknowzone.com](http://www.intheknowzone.com) for more information on substance abuse. Increase your knowledge using the information, statistics, images, and links. Test your understanding with a quick quiz.

**Don't stay in the dark.  
Get In the Know!**

**in the know**

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## E-JOINTS

*the big lie about  
a safer high*



***There's no telling what you might  
be getting in an e-joint.***



## ANYWHERE, ANYTIME

Since e-joints are about the size of tobacco e-cigarettes, they can be easily hidden or carried in the user's purse or pocket and thrown away when empty. E-joints do not produce the smoke that is commonly associated with burning marijuana. E-joints differ from vaporizing marijuana in that no pieces of the plant are used to get high. Instead, e-joints are loaded with concentrated hash oil. Unlike most vaporizers, there are no parts that need to be changed or assembled for e-joints to function. The user just has to open the box, pull out an e-joint, and inhale.

The effects of e-joints aren't immediate. The makers of e-joints promise a "softer" high than the user would expect from regular marijuana use, but the effects are still strong enough to cause dangerous physical and mental impairment. The effects of hash oil e-joints may not be immediate – sometimes taking up to 15 minutes to be felt. This, combined with their higher levels of THC, raises the risk of abuse and overuse.

smoke screen

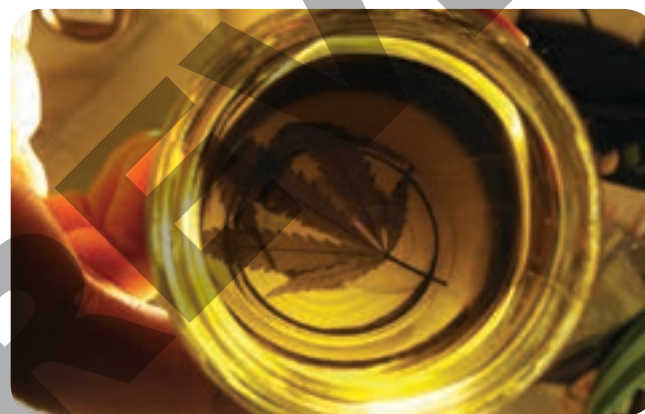
## A CHEMICAL COCKTAIL

The e-joint user's "high" is affected by the chemicals that enter their brain. The combination of THC and other compounds are different in vapor than in smoke, and the effects on the user will vary by the cocktail of chemicals added by the manufacturer. Different manufacturers have different extraction processes and might use additives, so there's no telling what you might be getting in an e-joint.

## HASH OIL: AN EXPLOSIVE PROBLEM

Hash oil is made by grinding up the marijuana plant and flushing it with a solvent, such as alcohol, naphtha, hexane, butane, or propane. These petrochemical solvents can also end up in the final hash oil product that the user inhales.

The most commonly used solvent is butane. Butane is basically lighter fluid. Imagine inhaling not just a dangerous cigarette or joint, but also the contents of the lighter as well.



severe impairment

## BUTANE SHORT-TERM EFFECTS

- Mouth, throat & lung irritation
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Headache
- Drowsiness
- Tingling sensation
- Suffocation
- Convulsion
- Coma

## BUTANE LONG-TERM EFFECTS

- Sudden collapse
- Coma
- Respiratory failure
- Liver failure
- Kidney failure
- Death

## BIGGER RISKS FOR TEENS

Hash oil use has not been widespread enough for researchers to study its long-term effects. It is known that THC can severely impair brain development and function, especially in teens.

The brain is not fully developed until about the age of 25. When young people take drugs that alter the way the brain functions, it can have far-reaching effects on their development.

THC affects the areas of the brain responsible for memory and learning. People who smoke marijuana heavily during their teenage years lose as many as eight IQ points between the ages of 13 and 38. Even if users quit in their adult years, these learning abilities don't come back.

toxic cocktail



## E-JOINTS: THE BIG UNKNOWN

Some people believe that vaping is "safer" than smoking, but it is by no means necessarily "safe." The long-term risks of inhaling e-joints are currently unknown.

What is actually in the vapor depends on many factors. Temperature is important because higher amounts of toxins are released at higher temperatures. Some vaping devices use plastic parts that can heat up, releasing additional toxins into the vapor.

Bottom line: Nobody really knows what is in e-joint vapor. Nobody knows what the long-term effects of using e-joints are on the human body. Just because the people who make and sell e-joints say it's safer, doesn't make it true.

**DON'T BUY THE HYPE.  
DON'T PUT YOURSELF AT RISK.  
DON'T BE A GUINEA PIG.**

**STAY AWAY FROM E-JOINTS.**

**When teens consume substances that alter the way the brain functions, it can have far-reaching effects on a their development.**