

# MARIJUANA

Marijuana is the most commonly used illegal drug in the world. It comes from the leaves and flowers of the plant *Cannabis sativa*.

The chemical THC gives marijuana its strength. The more THC, the more the marijuana affects feelings and behavior.

Marijuana contains hundreds of other chemicals, including known cancer-causers.

**Looks:** Marijuana is greenish-brown and looks like dried weeds or tea. It is usually sold loose in baggies.

**Street Names:** Pot, grass, weed, herb, chronic, and many more

**Methods of Use:** Usually smoked in homemade cigarettes ("joints"), pipes, or hollowed out cigars ("blunts"). Sometimes mixed into foods or tea.

**Actions:** Users look for laid-back cheerfulness. They get increased heart rates and poor concentration. They are clumsy, hungry, nervous, and sleepy.

**Warning Signs:** Red eyes, funky-sweet smell, dry mouth, odd sense of humor

## THE NUMBERS

12th graders in 2001 who had tried marijuana once or more: 49.0%.

12th graders in 2001 who had used marijuana in the past month: 22.4%.

MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS  
BE DRUG FREE!





- Poor memory
  - Trouble solving problems
  - Relationship troubles
  - Altered depth perception
  - Loss of coordination

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USING OVER TIME

- Loss of interest in activities and goals
- Frequent colds, bronchitis, and asthma
- Lung cancer or emphysema possible

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WAY TO GO

Many people have tried marijuana, but only about 10% of Americans use it frequently. People choose to stay in touch with their lives, to stay on track with their goals. Most people choose not to use marijuana.

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# GOOPY