



OIL, WAX, SHATTER & MORE

What you should know before considering these alternatives to dried leaf/flower products.

Concentrates (or extracts) are made when the cannabis plant's cannabinoids (THC & CBD) and terpenes (aromatic oils) are extracted from the plant – creating a more potent form of cannabis that can be ingested orally, dabbed, vaped, or smoked.

Concentrate Products

Concentrated cannabis products are extracted from the cannabis plant using various techniques, including applying pressure, heat, sifting the plant through screens, or using ice water or chemical solvents.

WAX



Soft but solid concentrates, extracted with solvents.

VAPES



THC-juices heated in a vaporizer to inhale fumes.

OILS



Oils are extracted by cooking ground cannabis plants in solvents.

SHATTER



A glass-like concentrate extracted using solvents.

ROSIN



A purified liquid, extracted with heat and pressure.

BUBBLE HASH



Extracted using ice water and sifted through screens.

KIEF



Crystal-like pollen removed from the plant with a grinder.

Risks of Cannabis Concentrates



Over-Intoxication

Concentrates can have levels of THC up to 99%, compared to the 10-25% in dried buds¹, creating a very intense & quick high, which can be overwhelming for new or younger users. Effects of over-intoxication include severe anxiety, vomiting, and paranoia².

Dangerous Impurities

Most extracts are made using harsh chemical solvents (like butane, propane, or CO₂). If extracts are obtained from illegal or unlicensed sources, it's possible they can contain unhealthy substances including residual solvent or other chemicals.



Explosions & Burns During Extraction

Because seriously flammable gasses are involved, solvent-based extraction in a non-laboratory environment can result in an explosion. Plus, without the proper equipment, there's no way to test the purity and quality and ensure proper extraction of dangerous impurities.

Increased Risk of Addiction

Regular use of extracts increases tolerance. Eventually, a person may need more cannabis to feel the same effects. This could contribute to the development of a cannabis use disorder (affecting 1 in 6 people that use cannabis during teenage years³).



If You're Thinking About Using Cannabis Concentrates/Extracts...

- Remember that everyone's response to cannabis is different
 - Extracts can lead to over-intoxication and cannabis poisoning quickly
- Set limits, consume slowly and wait between servings before having more
 - Vaping*: take one puff, wait 10-20 minutes to see how you feel
 - Dabbing*: start with a small amount (the size of a grain of rice) and wait 10-20 minutes to see how you feel
- Concentrates are not recommended for new users or those under age 25
 - Not recommended for individuals with a history of mental health disorders (schizophrenia/psychosis) or problematic substance use

^{1,2} CCSA (2019), [7 Things You Need to Know About Cannabis Extracts](#)

³ Canadian Pediatric Society, 2017. [Cannabis and Canada's Children and Youth](#)