

Slang /Terminology

The following are slang terms used locally that refers to alcohol and other drug abuse. Terminology changes; popular terms today may be obsolete next month. This is not a complete list.

420 Indicates a general interest in pot; it is thought to have originated at a high school in San Rafael, California, 4:20 was the time kids would get together. In urban legend it has been attributed to Bob Dylan. It is code for getting high. April 20 is the unofficial national day of recognition for marijuana use. “420” is used on T-shirts and elsewhere to announce the wearer smokes pot. (April 20 is also the date of the Columbine tragedy and the anniversary of Hitler’s birthday.)

40’s 40-ounce bottle of malt liquor.

8 ball An eighth-ounce of cocaine or marijuana, or 40 ounces of malt liquor.

LSD acid, trips, and acid.

angel dust See “PCP”

baked Under the influence of marijuana; stoned.

beer bong A device made with tubing that is used to drink beer fast, without added foam.

beer pong A variation of ping-pong, tossing ping-pong balls into cups of beer as the target. When the opposing team gets a ball in a cup, the “losers” have to drink the beer in that cup. This is a popular drinking game with teens.

bides (pronounced “beadies”) unfiltered cigarettes from Asia, available from local head shops or online.

blunt Marijuana inside a hollowed-out cigar or cigarette, or sometimes just a large “joint.”

bong Water-cooled pipe used to smoke marijuana. Kids will often give their bongs nicknames.

bowl Amount of marijuana that fits in a pipe, a quantity of marijuana smoked. Also another name for a pipe to smoke “weed”

bubbler Water pipe, usually made of “art glass,” used for smoking marijuana or hashish.

bud Marijuana; refers to the flower buds; usually the leaves are not smoked.

buzz; buzzed Being under the influence, “high.”

chronic Higher grade/potency marijuana, or marijuana mixed with crack.

clove cigarettes Popular alternative to cigarettes imported from Indonesia, made of a combination of tobacco and cloves, with eugenol, which numbs the throat. Also known as “kreteks.”

club drugs (also called “dance” or “party” drugs)

Drugs (MDMA [ecstasy], Rohypnol, GHB, and ketamine) used to enhance the music and dance experience at raves, bars and nightclubs, hence the name “club” drugs.

These drugs are relatively inexpensive and are thought to be less harmful than other drugs, so they appeal to club-goers who would normally not take other drugs. Recent studies have found that these drugs cause permanent damage to the brain.

Coricidin®, Robitussin®, other cold medications, Over-the-counter (OTC) cold remedies containing dextromethorphan (DXM) which kids use to get high. DXM is a dissociative anesthetic (psychedelic)

Coke, candy, blow, powder Cocaine, used intranasally.

crack Cocaine that is smoked; called “freebasing.”

cocaine Narcotic extracted from coca (*not* cocoa) leaves.

crank Name used for a variety of drugs: crack cocaine, heroin, amphetamine, methamphetamine, or methcathinone.

crunk, crunked Combination of the words “crazy” and “drunk.”

crystal Name used for a variety of drugs: cocaine, amphetamine, methamphetamine, or PCP.

crystal meth Methamphetamine in crystal form, also called “speed.”

dank Sticky, highly potent marijuana. Also called “wet.”

dime bag Ten dollars’ worth of marijuana or crack.

dip Smokeless tobacco containing tiny shards of fiberglass that cut the skin in the mouth, causing a quicker nicotine rush.

dissociative effects When DXM or other drugs cause a feeling of detachment/disconnectedness from one’s body.

drug rehab Evaluation, intervention and clinical services for people with substance abuse problems that range from weekly counseling sessions by trained professionals to daily or twice a week group therapy, family therapy, more intensive outpatient treatment to inpatient treatment.

DXM (Dextromethorphan) Active ingredient in cold medicines such as Coricidin® or Robitussin® cough syrup. Kids use this to achieve a high similar to LSD.

Ecstasy (methylenedioxymethamphetamine; MDMA), popular drug at raves.

eight ball One-eighth of an ounce of a drug.

freebase “Crack,” smokable cocaine.

‘haling Inhaling of solvents or glue to get high.

hash, hasish Marijuana resin, more concentrated and stronger than dried marijuana.

head shop Retail store that sells drug paraphernalia, sometimes in the back of a more legitimate-looking shop that might sell clothing, snowboards or other items.

herb, weed, ganga, bud, spleef, reefer Marijuana.

huffing To inhale solvents, paints, sprays, glues by either breathing through soaked rags or into cans containing the solvent, to get high.

Hydroponics Indoor gardening technique that uses water, artificial materials and powerful “grow” lights in large or small areas (closets to warehouses); used extensively to grow high-quality marijuana.

grass Marijuana.

Joint Marijuana cigarette.

kb “Kind bud,” high quality marijuana.

Kilo Equivalent to 2.2 pounds; measurement used to weigh marijuana and other drugs.

kreteks Clove cigarettes.

line a single dose of powdered cocaine, snorted with a straw.

locker room Butyl nitrate, inhalant used to get high; also called “bolt,” “rush,” “red gold.”

LSD Lysergic acid diethylamide; a hallucinogen sold in the form of blotter paper (LSD is dissolved in liquid and then absorbed into the paper), gelatin squares, or tiny pills (microdots).

m j, mary jane Marijuana.

marijuana Cannabis sativa, cannabis indica, cannabis ruderalis; most marijuana used to get high is a hybrid of these three varieties.

Nuggets, nugs, Small buds of marijuana.

opium An opiate drug related to heroin, usually smoked.

PCP Phencyclidine, also known as “angel dust.” First marketed as a general anesthetic, now used only for veterinary purposes. It causes drunkenness, insensitivity to pain, and lack of inhibition.

Pharming Consumption of beer or other alcohol with pills.

Piece A pipe (manufactured or homemade) used to smoke marijuana. Homemade pieces or pipes can be made from shaped aluminum foil, soda cans or bottles, carved-out wood or a variety of other materials.

pot Marijuana.

purple haze, purple hair, orange hair Marijuana that is even more potent than most hydroponically grown varieties.

rave All-night dance party with psychedelic lights and music, used in conjunction with drugs such as ecstasy (MDMA) to heighten the effects of the drug.

robo-tripping, robo-ing, triple C Use of cold medicines that contain DXM to achieve an hallucinogenic effect.

rock Cocaine, crack cocaine.

rolling The effect of being under the influence of ecstasy.

roofies Rohypnol; a sedative that makes users feel very drunk. The “date-rape” drug.

shrooms Psilocybin/psilocin mushrooms, used to achieve a hallucinogenic high.

schwag, shwag Low-quality marijuana.

Sinsemilla Meaning “without seeds,” a very potent marijuana—the buds and flowering tops of the female plants.

snappers Amyl nitrate, inhalant used to get high. Also known as poppers and rushamies

special K, vitamin K Ketamine, formerly marketed as a human anesthetic, now only used as a veterinary tranquilizer. Kids use it to get a hallucinogenic high similar to PCP.

Speed Crank amphetamine, methamphetamine.

spoof Empty toilet paper or paper towel roll covered with fabric softener sheets, used to contain marijuana smoke so parents can't detect that kids are smoking marijuana in their rooms.

steamroller Cylindrical pipe used for smoking marijuana (can be made of acrylic, glass, or other materials, or can be homemade from a toilet paper roll).

Stoned Under the influence of drugs.

stoner Person who uses marijuana regularly.

straight edge To act and look "counter-culture" or "punk" without participating in alcohol and other drug use, to demonstrate self-control and healthy personal habits. In Great Britain the Straight Edge movement is also referred to as "sXe."

THC Tetrahydrocannabinol, psychoactive cannabinoid in marijuana that is responsible for the high.

toke To smoke marijuana or hashish.

triple-c Coricidin® HBP Cough & Cold medicine. Also called "CCC," "candy," "red devils" or "dex."

tweaked, tweaking Drug-induced paranoia; peaking on "speed."

twenty (twenty bag) Twenty dollars' worth of drugs.

wake-n-bake To get stoned early in the morning, before school (or work).

weed Marijuana.

wet Also called "dank." Sticky, high potency marijuana.

whippits (also laughing gas) Small 8-gram metal cylinders sold with a balloon or pipe propellant for whipped cream in aerosol spray cans, vapors are inhaled. Also known as "nitrous."

Information taken from the following sources:

Buzzed: The Straight Facts about the Most Used and Abused Drugs from Alcohol to Ecstasy

by Cynthia Kuhn, Ph.D. et al

Local teens that use these terms via Instant Messenger and online journals

Monroe County Sheriff's Department

Rochester Police Department