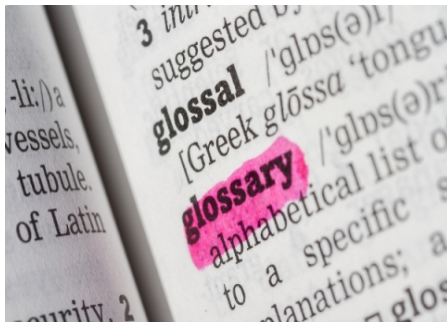




Glossary



Evidence ratings:



This resource has undergone expert review. See our Help/Q&A section for more details.

Year:

Targeted Drugs: Drugs (General)

Tags:

Origin: Australian

Cost:

Free

Glossary of Terms

Comedown

Just like getting a hangover from drinking alcohol, taking illegal drugs can lead to experiencing negative after-effects sometimes known as a 'comedown' or 'crash', which are the feelings experienced as the drug wears off. The type of effects experienced during this period depends on the type of drug(s) used. They might include feelings of depression, insomnia (inability to sleep), extreme tiredness, irritability, and anxiety just to name a few. These effects can last anywhere from a few hours to a day or so after initially taking the drug. It is different to withdrawal effects (a sign that a person is dependent).

Dependence (addiction)

People can also become physically and/or psychologically dependent on (addicted to) drugs, especially if they use regularly. They can develop tolerance, meaning that they need to take more of the drug to get the same effect.

The lifestyle of many people who are drug dependent (addicted to a drug) is difficult and often stressful and can lead to:

- Problems with school or work
- Losing touch with friends, family, and loved ones
- An inability to pay rent and bills, which can result in homelessness
- Impaired physical health
- Increased mental health problems
- Involvement in crime.

Depressant drugs

Depressant drugs reduce activity in the central nervous system. Examples include: Alcohol, GHB, Ketamine, Benzodiazepines, Opioids (e.g. Heroin).

See also [What are illegal drugs?](#)

Polydrug use

Mixing drugs or taking one drug when under the influence of another drug is known as polydrug use.

To find out more, see [Polydrug Use: Factsheet](#)

Psychosis

People affected by psychosis may experience hallucinations (e.g. seeing or hearing things that aren't really there), delusions (strong beliefs that do not reflect reality), and paranoia (feeling extremely suspicious and frightened). If symptoms last for more than a few days, this could indicate that the person may have a more serious mental illness such as schizophrenia.

Serotonin syndrome

A life-threatening condition that usually starts within 24 hours of taking the drug. It occurs when the brain is overloaded with a neurotransmitter (brain chemical) called serotonin. Symptoms include coma, seizures, shaking, confusion, rigid muscles, rapid heartbeat, and overheating.

Stimulant drugs

These increase the activity in the central nervous system. Examples include: Cocaine, Caffeine, MDMA (ecstasy), Methamphetamine (speed, ice, crystal, crystal meth, base), Ritalin, some new psychoactive drugs such as mephedrone and BZP.

See also What are illegal drugs and Emerging Drugs: Factsheet.

Withdrawal effects

People who are dependent on drugs or alcohol may also experience withdrawal effects when they stop using. Withdrawal effects can last for several days to many weeks, depending on the type of drug and severity of their dependence. Withdrawal symptoms may include feelings of anxiety, depression, restlessness, irritability, and aggression. Withdrawal can also cause muscle spasms, headaches, muscle cramps, diarrhoea, vomiting, and cravings for the drug.

A to Z of Drugs

Heard a name or street name for a drug but not sure what it is? This list will help you identify the drug. Click on the link to view a full information page and find out more about the drug, its use, effects and potential harms.

A to E | F to J | K to O | P to T | U to Z

A - E

A2	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Piperazines. See Emerging Drugs.
Acid	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
Barbiturates	From a class of drugs called Depressants. See What are illegal drugs?
Base	From a class of drugs called Methamphetamine.
Bath Salts	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cathinones. See Emerging Drugs.
Benzo Fury	Street name of class of drugs called Substituted Phenethylamines. See Emerging Drugs.
Benzos	Street name for Benzodiazepines.
Cannabis	
Charlie	Street name for Cocaine.
Cocaine	
Coke	Street name for Cocaine.
Crack	Street name for Cocaine.
Crystal	Street name for Methamphetamine.
Death on Impact	Street name of class of drugs called Substituted Phenethylamines. See Emerging Drugs.
Dope	Street name for Cannabis.
E	Street name for MDMA/Ecstasy.
Eccy	Street name for MDMA/Ecstasy.
Ecstasy	
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F - J

Fantasy	Street name for GHB.
Foxy	Street name of class of drugs called Substituted Tryptamines. See Emerging Drugs.
Freebase	Street name for Cocaine.
GHB	
Gina	Street name for GHB.
Go-ey	Street name for Methamphetamine.
Grievous bodily harm	Street name for GHB.
Hallucinogens	
Hash	Alternate name for Cannabis.
Herbal smoking blends	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cannabinoids.
Heroin	
Jungle Juice	Street name for Inhalants.
Ice	Street name for Methamphetamine.
Inhalants	
Ivory Wave	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cathinones. See Emerging Drugs.
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K - O

K	Street name for Ketamine.
K2	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cannabinoids.
Ketamine	
Kronik	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cannabinoids.
"Legal Highs"	Term often used for Emerging Drugs.
Liquid ecstasy	Street name for GHB.
LSD	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
M1	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cathinones. See Emerging Drugs.
Magic Mushrooms	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
Marijuana	Alternate name for Cannabis.
Meow Meow	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cathinones. See Emerging Drugs.

Mescaline	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
Meth	Street name for Methamphetamine.
Methamphetamine	
Methoxetamine	Street name of class of drugs called Dissociative Anaesthetics. See Emerging Drugs.
M-Kat	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cathinones. See Emerging Drugs.
Moxy	Street name of class of drugs called Dissociative Anaesthetics. See Emerging Drugs.
Mull	Street name for Cannabis.
MXE	Street name of class of drugs called Dissociative Anaesthetics. See Emerging Drugs.
N-Bomb	Street name of class of drugs called Substituted Phenethylamines. See Emerging Drugs.
Northern Lights	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cannabinoids.
Opiates	Class of drugs including Heroin.
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P - T

Party Drugs	MDMA/Ecstasy.
Poppers	Street name for Inhalants.
Rapture	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Piperazines. See Emerging Drugs.
Salvia	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
Smack	Street name for Heroin.
Snow	Street name for Cocaine.
Special K	Street name for Ketamine.
Speed	From a class of drugs called Methamphetamine.
Spice	Street name of class of drugs called Synthetic Cannabinoids.
Tabs	From a class of drugs called Hallucinogens.
Tina	Street name for Methamphetamine.
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U - Z

Vitamin K	Street name for Ketamine.
Weed	Street name for Cannabis.
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