

Dovetail is often asked by workers for information on alcohol and other drug slang terms. Having an awareness of these terms can assist in conducting an assessment, and communicating with young people. The following guide was created through consultation with Queensland youth alcohol and other drug workers, and is by no means definitive. Slang terms are often highly contextualised and vary over time, across regions and within social and cultural networks. Slang terms can be misinterpreted or misused by workers, so exercise caution when using this guide.

Also, be aware that the media invent terms that are rarely (if ever) used by people who use drugs. This includes terms such as “hillbilly heroin” (oxycodone), “zombie drug” (flakka – a-PVP) or “hippy crack” (nitrous oxide). These terms are only used by the media for the purposes of sensationalist reporting and have not been included in this guide. If you have any further slang terms to add, or if you know of a different definition, feel free to get in touch and we will update the list over time.



A

- ACID** LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide)
- AMYL** amyl nitrite
- ANGEL TRUMPETS** Datura stramonium or plants from the Brugmansia genus - refers to the large trumpet shaped flowers of the plant, most parts of these plants contain scopolamine, hyoscyamine and atropine, which causes delirium when ingested
- AYAHUASCA** a hallucinogenic tea from South America, usually containing a mixture of Psychotria viridis (containing the hallucinogen DMT) and Banisteriopsis caapi (containing harmala alkaloids, which are MAOIs) - contemporary forms may include DMT containing Acacia species, or harmala alkaloids from Syrian rue seed

- BAGGIE** a small clip seal plastic bag used to store illicit substances
- BANG** to inject a drug
- BAKED** cannabis intoxication
- BASE** a form of methamphetamine - often brown / beige / reddish, and can come in a slightly moist form that appears like a paste, generally considered to be low to medium purity methamphetamine

BATH SALTS Methylenedioxypropylvalerone (MDPV), although can refer to any stimulant from the cathinone family

- BENDER** a drug binge
- BENZOS** short for benzodiazepines
- BICCIES** short for ‘disco biscuits’ - used to describe MDMA
- BILLY** a cannabis water pipe (or bong)
- BLAZED** cannabis intoxication

BLOW cocaine

BLUE MEANIES magic mushrooms - in Queensland and northern New South Wales, Blue Meanies refers to the Copelandia cyanescens species

BOOF / BOOFING to inject a drug

BOOT / BOOTING to inject a drug

BOOTY BUMP rectal administration of a substance

BONG a cannabis water pipe, often home made, consisting of a small plastic bottle, a piece of hose and a cone piece often made from foil

BOX cask wine

BREKKY CONES smoking cannabis in the morning, at breakfast time

BREW / BREWS / BREWSKIS alcohol, particularly beer

B

- BUD** the flowering heads of the cannabis plant
- BUCKET BONG** A cannabis smoking device that utilises a plastic bottle with the bottom removed, placed into a bucket of water. The cannabis is placed in a cone piece that sits across the mouth of the bottle. When the bottle is lifted up out of the water, gravity causes air to pass through the cone piece, filling the bottle with a large quantity of cannabis smoke, which is ingested in one inhalation. Bucket bonging tends to produce a more intense intoxication than other routes of administration.
- BULBS** nitrous oxide in the form of a whipped cream charger
- BUMP** a snort of a small amount of a substance (often ketamine or cocaine), sometimes off a key or a dedicated device, known as a snuff bullet
- BUNGA** cigarettes, particularly roll your own cigarettes
- BUPE** short for buprenorphine, a drug used in medically assisted treatment for opioid dependence
- BUSH** cannabis believed to be grown in the outdoors

C

- CACTUS / CACTUS POWDER** Often refers to mescaline containing cactus such as San Pedro or peyote cactus. The cactus can be dried and ground into a powder form.
- CAPS** capsules - typically containing MDMA
- CASK** cask wine
- CANDY FLIP** the combined use of MDMA and LSD
- CHANGA** Dimethyltryptamine (DMT) soaked plant material in cigarette form
- CHARGE / CHARGED** alcohol intoxication
- CHARLIE** cocaine
- CHASING** a term used to describe the process of acquiring drugs e.g. "Are you chasing?"
- CHASING THE DRAGON** A term used to describe smoking heroin off foil. As the heroin heats up, the smoke can curl off the foil. It is believed that this curling of the smoke looks like a dragon's tail, thus the term "chasing the dragon."
- CHOOFF / CHOOFFING** smoking cannabis
- CHOP / CHOP UP** Cannabis chopped or ground into a fine form in order to be smoked. Can also be used to describe the act of smoking cannabis - "let's go have a chop"
- CHOP-CHOP** black market tobacco
- CHOPPED** MDMA intoxication
- CHROMING** A term used to describe paint sniffing. Originally referred specifically to the sniffing of chrome coloured paint, but now refers to the sniffing of any spray paint.
- CHRONIC** high potency cannabis, also known as 'hydro'
- CIGGIE** a cigarette
- CLEAN** a term used to describe abstinence
- CLIPPY BAG** a plastic clip seal bag used to store drugs
- COKE** cocaine
- COMING DOWN** a term used to describe drug effects wearing off
- CONE PIECE** A part of a cannabis smoking utensil which is shaped like a cone. A cone piece could be home-made, out of foil, or could be purchased from a tobacco shop.
- CONES** cannabis or cannabis smoking, referring to the cone piece used in a smoking device
- CRACK** In Australia this term is generally used to describe crystal methamphetamine. In the United States, "crack" refers to crack cocaine, however crack cocaine is extremely rare in Australia.
- CRACK PIPE** a glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine
- CRACKER** A device used to release nitrous oxide from whipped cream chargers. The nitrous is usually released into a balloon, and is then inhaled.
- CRACKIE** a glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine
- CRYSTAL** crystal methamphetamine
- CUT** drugs that have been adulterated with inert substances designed to increase profit for distributors

DABBING	a term used to describe a small portion of hash oil, wax or 'shatter' which is placed onto a vaporiser for consumption
DARB / DARBS	cigarette(s)
DART / DARTS	can be used to describe a cigarette / and can also be used to describe a needle / syringe
DEXIES	dexamphetamine
DIMITRI	DMT
DINGER	MDMA in pill form (variation on 'pinger')
DONE	(pronounced like "own") - short for Methadone
DOOBIE	a cannabis cigarette
DOOF TRIPS	DMT
DOPE	usually used to describe cannabis however can also be used to describe heroin
DOUBLE DROPPING	taking two MDMA pills or two tabs of LSD at one time
DUMPER	a cigarette rolled with tobacco sourced from dumped cigarette butts
DURRIE	a cigarette

D

E

(EIGHT) 8 BALL	a measurement term used to describe an eighth of an ounce or 3.5 grams of a drug
E / EZE	MDMA
EKKIES	MDMA typically in pill form
EKKY TUESDAY	experiencing low mood after the effects of using MDMA have worn off
ELBOW	a measurement term used to describe a pound (lb) of drugs
EMMA	MDMA

(FOUR TWENTY) 420	A term used to describe cannabis. Originated in California, where a group of friends met each afternoon at 4:20pm. It is now recognised in some parts of the world on the 20th of April, as a counter cultural holiday.
(FIFTY) 50 BAG	\$50 worth of cannabis
FACE MELTER	intoxication from using a hallucinogenic drug
FANTASY / FANTA	GHB
FAST	methamphetamine
FISH SCALE	cocaine, considered to be very high quality
FIT	a needle / syringe
FLAKKA	α -Pyrrolidinopentiophenone (α -PVP)
FLIPPERS	MDMA
FOIL	\$25 worth of cannabis wrapped in aluminium foil

F

G

G SLEEP	a GHB overdose
GAS	methamphetamine
G'D OUT	a GHB overdose
GEAR	various substances or paraphernalia including heroin / steroids / other illicit drugs / injecting equipment
GET ON	the process of acquiring drugs
GLASS	crystal methamphetamine
GO	methamphetamine
GOEY	methamphetamine
GOLD TOPS	or 'magic mushrooms' - in Queensland, gold tops refers to Psilocybe cubensis

- GOOGS / GOOGIES** MDMA tablet - derived from 'eggs' (ecstasy)
GOON / GOON BAG wine in a flagon or cask
GRASS cannabis
GREENING OUT when a person feels sick from using cannabis, often caused by the combination of cannabis and alcohol - typically involving nausea or vomiting
GREY NURSE / GREYS morphine tablets, particular MS Contin, with the 100mg tablet being coloured grey
GRIEF the leaf and stem from cannabis which is at the bottom of the bag that a person purchases it in - the grief is considered unpleasant to smoke
GRINDER a small metal grinding device that is used to chop cannabis to prepare it for smoking
GROG alcohol
GROWTH steroids, particularly Human Growth Hormone (HGH)
GUNJA cannabis
GURNING the teeth grinding and jaw movement typically seen in MDMA intoxication
GURNER a person intoxicated on MDMA

- H** heroin
- HALF WEIGHT** a measurement term - used to describe half a gram of drugs
- HARRY** heroin
- HAMMER** heroin
- HASH** resin from the flowers of the cannabis plant
- HIGH** under the influence of drugs
- HIPPY FLIP** a combination of MDMA and magic mushrooms
- HIT UP** to inject a drug
- HOLDING** in possession of a drug
- HONEY OIL** cannabis resin/oil
- HOOCH** cannabis
- HOOTER** cannabis
- HYDRO / HYDGE** cannabis, assumed to be grown indoors using hydroponics

H

- ICE** crystal methamphetamine
- INDICA** the Cannabis indica plant, a particular species of cannabis

I

- JOINT** a cannabis cigarette
- JUICE** can be used to describe either steroids or GHB
- JUMPED ON** drugs which have been adulterated or 'cut', usually with an inert substance designed to increase the profit margin for the distributor

J

K

K ketamine

K-HOLE ketamine intoxication that results in the person becoming immobilised - for many, a K-hole is considered an overdose, and is often thought of as being unpleasant

KET ketamine

KEY short for kilogram

KIEF / "KIF" The fine residue of dried cannabis which accumulates in the bottom of a cannabis storage container or grinder. The kief can include cannabis trichomes, which are high in THC. From the Arabic "kayf" which means pleasure, or intoxication.

KRONIC synthetic cannabis - specifically the JWH 018 chemical which mimics the effects of cannabis and is applied to an inert herbal product

LIQUID ECSTASY GHB

LIT an American term which refers to being intoxicated e.g. "Let's get lit"

LINES powdered drugs prepared into small lines, which can then be snorted

L

M

M MDMA

MD MDMA

MESC / MESCALINE mescaline is a hallucinogenic phenethylamine, generally appearing in its natural form as cactus or cactus powder

METH methamphetamine

MICRODOT a very small tablet impregnated with LSD

MOLLY MDMA in powder or crystal form

MOON BOOTS a term used to describe being under the influence of Ketamine e.g. "I got my moon boots on last night"

MULL cannabis itself / but also to 'mull up' refers to chopping up cannabis in order to smoke it

MULL-O-MATIC a device for chopping large quantities of cannabis

MUNTED intoxicated on MDMA

MUSHIES magic mushrooms

NANGS nitrous oxide in the form of whipped cream chargers

NBOME N-methoxybenzyl - can include 25I-NBOMe, 25C-NBOMe, 25E-NBOMe

NITROUS nitrous oxide

NOSE BEER cocaine

NUGS a shortened term for the word nuggets and used to describe cannabis buds

N

O

ON THE NOD under the influence of opioids

OSCAR a measurement term used to describe an ounce (oz) of a drug

OX BLOOD methamphetamine that appears in a dark red liquid form

OXIES short for oxycodone (often the brand name Oxycontin), a prescription opioid medication

P

- P** short for 'pure' - referring to crystal methamphetamine
- PACKET** \$50 worth of heroin
- PEAKING** the moment in which a drug has reached its peak effect - typically associated with MDMA or LSD use
- PEEV** short for "PV", a term used to describe MDPV
- PERUVIAN FLAKE** cocaine which is considered high quality
- PICK** a needle / syringe
- PIN** a needle / syringe
- PINGERS** MDMA in tablet form
- PILLS** can be used to describe MDMA or benzodiazepines
- PINK CHAMPAGNE** methamphetamine which has a pink colour
- PINNED** intoxicated on opioids, referring to pinpoint pupils
- PIPE** a smoking utensil either for cannabis or crystal methamphetamine
- PISS** alcohol
- PLUG** rectal administration of a substance
- POINT** a measurement term used to describe 0.1 of a gram
- POPPERS** amyl nitrite
- POT** cannabis
- PULLING CONES / PUNCHING CONES** smoking cannabis typically through a water pipe
- PV** MDPV

Q

- (QUARTER) 1/4** a measurement term used to describe either a quarter ounce of cannabis, or a quarter gram of heroin
- QUICK** methamphetamine

R

- RACK** preparing a powdered substance into lines for snorting e.g: "Let's rack up some coke."
- RAIL / RAILING** snorting lines of powdered substances
- ROCK** can refer to substances like crystal methamphetamine, MDMA or heroin that appear clumped - often assumed to be of higher purity
- ROIDS** steroids
- ROLLIES** roll your own tobacco
- ROLLS** MDMA tablets
- ROLLING** being under the influence of MDMA
- ROUNDIES** MDMA in tablet form
- RUSH** a popular brand of amyl nitrite

S

- SATIVA** Cannabis sativa - a species of the cannabis plant that grows in sub / tropical regions
- SATTIE BAG** a plastic clip seal bag, used to store substances
- SCOOB** a cannabis cigarette
- SCOOBY SNACK** cannabis in an edible form, for example a cannabis brownie or biscuit
- SCORE** buying drugs
- SESH** short for "session" - used to describe someone going to use cannabis with others e.g. "going for a sesh"

SESSION	the act of smoking cannabis
SHABU	can refer to methamphetamine
SHAFT / SHAFTING	rectal administration of a substance
SHARD	crystal methamphetamine
SHATTER	THC extract from the cannabis plant
SHOOT UP	to inject a drug
SHOT	to inject a drug
SHROOMS	short for 'magic mushrooms'
SLAB	a carton of beer
SLAM	to inject a drug
SLOW	heroin and other opioids
SKAG	heroin
SKUNK	high potency hydroponic cannabis
SMACK	heroin
SMASHED	a generic term used to describe intoxication
SMOKE	cannabis or tobacco smoking
SMOKES	cigarettes
SMIFF / SNIFFING	inhalant use
SNUS	a form of moist, smokeless tobacco which is placed under the upper lip for extended periods
SPECIAL K	ketamine
SPEED	methamphetamine in powder form, generally of low purity
SPICE	used to describe either DMT (sometimes called 'Elf Spice') or a brand of synthetic cannabis
SPIN	tobacco that is mixed with cannabis to be smoked
SPLIFF	a cannabis cigarette
STACKING	the process of taking multiple pills at once
STICK	a 'foil' of cannabis, usually worth \$25
STONED	being intoxicated on cannabis
STOOD ON	describes drugs which have been adulterated, usually with an inert substance in order to increase profits for the distributor
STRAIGHT	not currently affected by alcohol and/or other drugs
STOKER	a toothpick-like implement used to unblock 'cone pieces'
SUBBIES	short for Subutex / Suboxone - used in opioid replacement therapy (ORT)
SYNTHETIC CANNABIS	any one of a number of substances designed to mimic the effects of THC / cannabis
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TABS	blotter paper usually impregnated with LSD
TAILORS / TAILOR-MADES	packaged cigarettes
TEMAZE / TEMAZZIES	Temazepam
TASTE	a small amount of drugs given or shared
TICK	the purchase of drugs on credit – e.g. "Can I get that on tick?" - there may also be references to the "tick bill" which is the amount of money owed to a drug dealer
TICKETS	LSD in blotter form
TINA	short for 'Christina' used to describe crystal methamphetamine
TINNIE	\$25 worth of cannabis wrapped in aluminium foil / also a can of beer
TOASTED	cannabis intoxication
TOASTING CONES / TOASTING HOTTIES	the process of smoking cannabis



- TRIPLE DROPPING** taking three pills at one time
- TRIPPING** under the influence of a hallucinogenic drug, typically LSD or magic mushrooms
- TRIPS** LSD
- TRIPSTACY** short for “trippy ecstasy” - a tablet which was meant to be MDMA, but produced an hallucinogenic effect, which could be NBOMe, 2CB etc.
- TWEAKER / TWEAKING** a person under the influence of methamphetamine can be said to be ‘tweaking’

U

- UP** methamphetamine
- UP THE MURRAY** can be used to describe someone under the influence of opioids
- COD** (rhyming slang - “on the nod”)

- VALS** short for Valium a popular brand of diazepam
- VAPE / VAPING** commonly refers to an electronic device that vaporises nicotine liquid for inhalation - can also refer to a cannabis vaporiser or the act of vaporising cannabis

V

- W**
- WAKE N BAKE** using cannabis in the morning
- WAX** THC extract
- WEED** cannabis
- WEIGHT OR FULL WEIGHT** one gram of drugs
- WHACK / WHACK UP** to inject a drug
- WHIZ / WHIZZA** methamphetamine
- WIRED** intoxication on methamphetamine

X

Y

- YARNDI** cannabis

- ZANNIES** variation / short for “Xanax” a familiar brand name for the benzodiazepine alprazolam
- ZINGERS** MDMA in tablet form (see also ‘pingers’ / ‘dingers’)
- ZIPPED** intoxicated on opioids referring to the pinpoint pupils of someone intoxicated on opioids

Z