

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 delerium 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

B

- 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)
- BLAST** to inject a drug
- BLAZED** cannabis intoxication
- BLOW** cocaine
- BLUE MEANIES** magic mushrooms - in Queensland and northern New South Wales, Blue Meanies refers to the Copelandia cyanescens species
- BLUNT** A joint rolled with cigar paper
- BOMB / BOMBING** consuming a substance orally, sometimes by wrapping in a cigarette paper and swallowing
- 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
- BUD** the flowering heads of the cannabis plant

BUCKET BONG A cannabis smoking device that uses 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 inhaled. Bucket bonges tend 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

BUM RUSH a sensation that occurs in the anus and surrounding area following IV administration of some substances

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

BUTE short for 1,4 Butanediol, a chemical that converts to GHB upon ingestion

C

CACTUS / CACTUS POWDER Often refers to mescaline containing cactus such as San Pedro or peyote cactus - 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 / CHUNGA 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.

CHOOF / CHOOFING 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'

CLEAR over-the-counter combination analgesic containing codeine

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

CRYSTAL PISTOL A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine

CUT drugs that have been adulterated with inert substances 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')
DIRTY SHOT	A reaction caused by injecting contaminated drugs - headache, fever, chills
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)
FLATY	small bottle of spirits that is flat on one side and looks like a flask
FLIPPERS	MDMA
FOIL	\$25 worth of cannabis wrapped in aluminium foil
FREEBASE	The process of converting a substance to an alkaloid form which can then be smoked, to deliver an increased effect - most common example being the "crack" form of cocaine.

F

G

G SLEEP	a GHB overdose
GAK	cocaine
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
GLASS HARLEY	A glass pipe for smoking 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
- HOT SHOT** An injection of a substance that is designed to cause death. The administration or supply of a hot shot can be considered murder.
- HOT KNIFE** A method of hashish administration that involves pressing a small quantity of hashish between two heated knives, and inhaling the smoke that is produced.
- HYDRO / HYDGE** cannabis, assumed to be grown indoors using hydroponics
- 

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

- 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
- 

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.

KINE High quality cannabis

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

MAINLINE To inject a drug

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

MILTON MANGOES XXXX beer - referring to the location of the XXXX brewery, and the colour of the can/label

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
- PARACHUTING** consuming a substance orally, sometimes by wrapping in a cigarette paper and swallowing
- 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
- PERSIAN RUGS** drugs
- 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
- PUFF** To smoke crystal methamphetamine e.g: "Let's go have a puff"
- 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

- RACEHORSE** A very thin hand rolled cigarette or joint
- RACK** preparing a powdered substance into lines for snorting e.g: "Let's rack up some coke."
- RAIL / RAILING** snorting lines of powdered substances
- RESIN** byproduct of smoking cannabis - black tar like substance that coats cannabis utensils - can be smoked, as it contains cannabinoids.
- RIPPED** cannabis intoxication
- 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
- ROWIES** Rohypnol
- RUSH** a popular brand of amyl nitrite

R**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

SCATTERED	As the effects of stimulants like methamphetamine wear off, people sometimes experience mild confusion e.g. "I'm not answering my phone right now, I'm way too scattered."
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 going to use cannabis with others, "going for a sesh"
SESSION	the act of smoking cannabis
SHABU	can refer to methamphetamine
SHAFT / SHAFITING	rectal administration of a substance
SHARD	crystal methamphetamine
SHATTER	THC extract from the cannabis plant
SHELVE	Intravaginal administration of a substance
SHOOT UP	to inject a drug
SHOT	to inject a drug
SHOTTY / SHOT GUN	A hole on the side of a bong designed to allow air into the chamber, in order to increase the movement of smoke through the device - sometimes referred to as a "carb" (carburettor)
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
SNOW CONE	when a powdered substance is sprinkled on top of cannabis which is then smoked through a bong or a pipe
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)
SWABS	wipes containing 70% isopropyl alcohol, designed to clean a site before injecting
SYNTHETIC CANNABIS	any one of a number of substances designed to mimic the effects of THC / cannabis

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
TRIPPING BALLS	Intense hallucinations caused by an hallucinogenic substance
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.
TRUMPET	A large joint that is thicker at one end
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”)

VALLIES / 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
WESLEY PIPES	A glass pipe for smoking crystal methamphetamine	
WHACK	to inject a drug	
WHIZ / WHIZZA	methamphetamine	
WIRED	intoxication on methamphetamine	

XTC MDMA

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