

TRAINING BULLETIN



It is very important for all who work in the fields of prevention, enforcement, education and treatment to be aware of a growing drug trend that is **VERY** popular across the US and Canada. Law enforcement officials and educators from across the country have been locating and dealing with individuals using a non-traditional type of marijuana. This kind of marijuana has the technical term of “dabbing” but is known at the street level as marijuana wax, oils and concentrates.

OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS, we have seen many states either reduce criminal penalties or all out legalize marijuana. We have also seen a significant increase in individuals and retail locations growing, distributing and selling marijuana. On the heels of this trend, concentrates have emerged.

Dabbing, or dabs, is a form of marijuana concentrates that strongly resembles honey, wax or butter. Unlike traditional marijuana, the green leafy substance with approximately 15%-25% THC content, this product has much higher THC content. Some individuals have actually encountered this product but truly didn't know or understand that they discovered a form of marijuana.

There are several different methods to creating wax. One of the more popular methods is to use butane and some type of tubing filled with marijuana to extract the THC oils from the product. The THC oil drips into some type of non-stick dish or pad, then the individual burns or cooks off the butane using heat. The finished product has a honey or waxy appearance. (See right). (This is why you will hear this form of marijuana referred to as concentrates, wax, oils, butter, ear wax, honey, BHO for Butane Honey Oil or Butane Hash Oil.)



Using butane, a common fuel, for extraction, has its problems. The use of butane has continually caused BHO lab home explosions all over the country. These explosions have killed and severely burned people, nationwide. The explosions are also causing serious structural damage to their property and neighboring properties. One simple search for butane explosions or butane hash oil explosions provides articles from all across the US and more articles from other countries. The use of butane is not the only method used to create concentrates, but it is the most

popular. The finished product can leave the THC level in the wax/oil in the range of 70-90% THC, well above the average of 15-25% THC.

Once packaged, this product can simply look like a small portion of wax. Concentrates can also put into various food products, known as marijuana “edibles”. Obviously, this changes the delivery method and makes identification more discrete. Edibles can be very difficult to identify and can have a minimal to no odor of marijuana. Edibles can look like candy, snack products or beverages.



Another form of concentrates that should be discussed is referred to as “Shatter” (See above). Shatter is a glassy, amber colored substance that is also a form of wax or concentrate. Shatter generally looks like glass shards or a hard piece of taffy.

After creating the marijuana concentrate, the subject uses a more specific bong or pipe which is called an “Oil Rig” to smoke the wax. A popular way to consume dabs is to use a device that looks like a standard e-cigarette, but is known as a dab vape pen. These specific pen type works for various forms of concentrates and oils,

This movement is extremely popular with all ages and is evolving quickly as there are many different types of paraphernalia, terms, logos, and concentrate types coming into our communities.



For more specific information on drug trends/trainings you can go to

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