



DRUG FACT SHEET

# K2 Herb

The Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act, signed into law in July of 2012, permanently bans the deadly chemical compounds marketed and sold as “herbal incense” in all states.

Class of drug:	Synthetic Cannabis
Main active ingredients:	Cannabicyclohexanol, JWH-073, JWH-200, CP-47, 497, and JWH-018, similar to THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) but more potent. All of these ingredients are considered Schedule I Controlled Substances.
What it looks like:	In its pure state, these synthetic chemical compounds are solids or oil; but are usually sprayed on a mixture of dried herbs and spices
Street names:	K2, K2 Herb, Spice, K2 Incense, K2 Summit, K2 Standard, K2 Blond, Fake Weed, Black Mamba
How it is used:	Smoked, inhaled, ingested
Duration of high:	<b>Smoked</b> —effects begin immediately after the drug enters the brain and last from one to three hours
Withdrawal symptoms:	Irritability, headaches, nausea, anxiety, depression
Detected in the body:	K2 can now be detected more readily through urinalysis. Tests have been developed to detect specific synthetic cannabinoid compounds found in K2.
Effects:	<b>Physical</b> —sleepiness, relaxation, reduced or elevated blood pressure, heart palpitations <b>Mental</b> —hallucinations, delusions, paranoia <b>Long-term</b> —This drug is fairly new; the DEA is still studying its long-term effects. No long-term effects have been recorded in humans.



Although the main ingredients in Spice are illegal to sell and purchase, manufacturers are constantly changing the chemicals used in Spice products in an attempt to evade legal restrictions. Because the chemical composition varies among Spice products, it is unknown exactly what effects it will have.

## U.S. information

5.2 percent of high school seniors have used synthetic marijuana in the past year. Easy access and the misunderstanding that Spice is "natural" have likely contributed to its use. Popularity of these products has greatly declined over the last four years.

(University of Michigan, 2015 Monitoring the Future Study)

Sources: Drug profile: Synthetic cannabinoids and 'Spice'. EMCDDA Drug Profiles. European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction. 2009. Sobolevsky, T, Prasolof I, Rodchenkov G, Detection of JWH-018 metabolites in smoking mixture post-administration urine. Forensic Science International, 2010, Uchiyama N, Kikura-Hanajiri R, Ogata J, Goda Y. Chemical analysis of synthetic cannabinoids as designer drugs in herbal products. Forensic Science International, 198 (2010) 31-38. (LiveScience, Fake Weed, Real Drug: K2 Causing Hallucinations in Teens, March 3, 2010)